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PAPERS

RELATING TO

HER MAJESTY'S COLONIAL POSSESSIONS.

PART II. OF 1876.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
August 1876.



LONDON:

PRINTED BY GEORGE E. EYRE AND WILLIAM SPOTTISWOODE,
PRINTERS TO THE QUEEN'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY.
FOR HER MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE.

1876.

[C.—1622.—I.] Price 1s. 7d.

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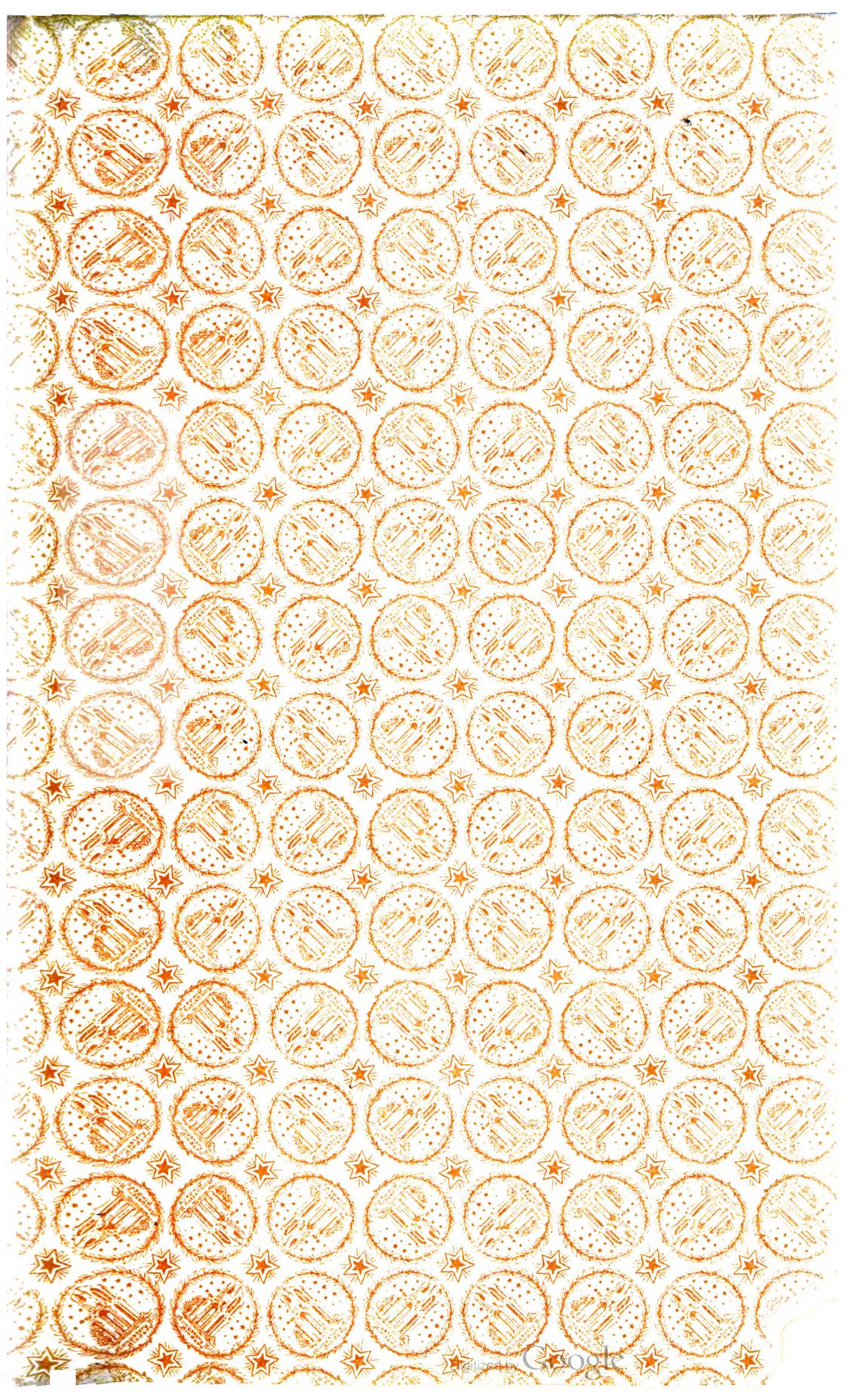
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JAMAICA.

JAMAICA.

No. 1.

Governor Sir Wm. GREY, K.C.S.I., to The EARL OF CARNARVON.

MY LORD, King's House, October 23, 1876.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith to your Lordship the official Blue Book of Jamaica for the year 1874-75, together with my report thereon.

I have, &c.

(Signed) W. GREY.

The Right Hon. the Earl of Carnarvon,
&c. &c. &c.

REPORT on the JAMAICA BLUE BOOK for 1875.

Legislation.

Twenty-six laws were passed during this year, of which the following are the most important.

Law 1 of 1875. "A law to make provision as to the Imprisonment of Persons committed for Trial on Criminal Charges."

This law was passed in consequence of a doubt which existed whether justices who committed persons for trial on charges of indictable offences had power to commit such persons to any other prison than the gaol of the county. The practice which had for some time been followed of sending all persons not on bail who were awaiting trial for indictable offences to the county gaol was often productive of hardship and much inconvenience. To remedy this inconvenience this law provides that prisons which may from time to time be declared by the Governor's order may be used for the reception of prisoners awaiting trial, and that the committing justices may order such prisoners to be confined either in the county gaol or in one of the prisons, as prescribed, which may be nearest to the place of trial.

Law 3 of 1875. "A Law to abrogate Stamp Duties on Appointments made to Public Offices in Jamaica."

By Law 33 of 1868 stamp duties were declared to be leviable on every commission, grant, warrant, or appointment by Her Majesty's letters patent or by the Governor to any office above a certain value. Subsequent to this Law 33 of 1868 there arose at different times questions as to the liability of officers to pay this duty, and the late Attorney-General advised on one occasion that when no instrument of appointment was issued no stamp

181020

JAMAICA.

duty was chargeable. This ruling embraced a large number of appointments, including many such as appointments to district court judgeships made by the Secretary of State, for it had long been the practice here to issue no formal instrument of appointment unless when such was specifically required by law. In this way a large number of the public appointments came to be exempted, and the tax consequently pressed unfairly on those few officers to whom the law required the issue of a commission. Furthermore, the revenue derived from this source had come down to the trifling sum of 116*l.* in 1873-74. Under these circumstances it was thought advisable to abolish the stamp duty on all appointments to public offices.

Law 6 of 1875. "A Law to authorise the Disposal of Stolen or " Unclaimed Property in the custody of the Police."

This law was passed in consequence of a representation which was made by the Inspector-General of Police of the inconvenience experienced from the accumulation in the hands of the police of unclaimed property.

Sections 1 and 2 are framed with some modification on sections 29, 30 of the Metropolitan Police Act, 2 & 3 Vict. c. 71. section 3. prescribes the manner in which the unclaimed property shall be sold by auction.

Law 7 of 1875. "A Law to regulate Burials within the limits " of Towns, and to provide for their Discontinuance in certain " cases."

The immediate occasion for the passing of this law was the burial in a private ground and in the vicinity of inhabited houses of the body of a person who had died from small-pox. The law is intended to prohibit burials under circumstances attended with danger to the public health.

Law 8 of 1875. "A Law in aid of Law 31 of 1867 as to the " Unlawful Possession of Rum."

The existing Law 31 of 1867, "A Law to regulate the Collection " of the Duty on Rum," &c., has been in operation eight years, and from time to time great difficulty has been experienced by the Revenue Department in proving rum found in the possession of irresponsible persons to be illicit, or to have been removed from an estate and liable to seizure. The object of the law under report is to make it clear that rum found in the possession of irresponsible persons on the public roads or in any other place (the person in possession being unable to account for such possession lawfully) is seizable, and to place the onus of proof that the rum did not come from an estate, or that it was properly received, on the person found in possession of it.

Law 9 of 1875. "A Law to regulate the Sale of Spirits."

The objects of this law are to consolidate the spirit license laws and to provide better means than have heretofore existed for making the magistrates acquainted with the character of applicants for licenses to retail spirits. It has often been represented by persons in different parts of the Island that applicants come

before the magistrates who are not known, recommended by persons who are equally unknown, and that in this way many persons obtain licenses who should not. In introducing the Bill into the Legislative Council the Collector-General of Revenue remarked that since 1867-68, when Law 17 of 1867 was passed, the number of spirit licenses had risen from 663 to 1,280, being an increase of nearly 100 per cent. By the present law all applications for retail licenses are placed under the supervision of the inspector of police for the parish in which the license is to be granted.

Law 10 of 1875. "A Law to enable Coroners to admit to Bail
" Persons charged with Manslaughter."

A prisoner had been committed for trial on a charge of manslaughter on the finding of a coroner's jury, and after preliminary examinations by a stipendiary magistrate he was afterwards acquitted of the charge, and pending his trial he was admitted to bail by the magistrate. It was, however, found that the coroner had no power to accept bail, and it was necessary to make application to a judge at chambers. To remedy the inconvenience and possible hardship under the existing law this law was passed. It is framed on the English Act 22 Vict. c. 33, the only variation being that a deputy coroner who takes an inquest and commits for trial is not empowered by the law now reported on to accept bail.

Law 11 of 1875. "A Law to make provision for the granting
" of Pensions to Widows and Children of deceased Public Officers
" in Jamaica."

This is a law to establish a fund for granting pensions to the widows and children of deceased public officers. An attempt made in 1874 by some leading members of the Civil Service to establish a mutual insurance fund on the voluntary principle was unsuccessful, and it was therefore found necessary by the promoters of the association to obtain from the Legislature compulsory powers. Many of the provisions of the law are similar to those of the Ordinance (No. 3 of 1873) of British Guiana.

The principal provisions of the law are that every person, on being first appointed to an office of 100*l.* per annum, becomes an associate of the fund; the compulsion of membership, however, is not mutual, as the association reserves to itself the right of rejecting any associate if it shall appear, on medical examination of such associate, that he is not a proper or safe life to be charged on the fund. Every officer, from the date of his registration, shall suffer an abatement from his salary of 4*l.* per cent. per annum until he shall be 65 years old, or such abatement shall have been made for 35 years. Officers who have retired on pensions are to suffer abatements at the same rate of 4*l.* per cent. on their pensions.

There are other provisions enabling associates to purchase annuities, as also for meeting cases in which an associate resigns or is dismissed from the service.

JAMAICA.

Details are given in the law of the mode in which pensions are computed and payable, and of the shares which the widow or the children, or widow and step-children, shall take respectively. An unmarried associate who marries subsequently to his joining the association is, on his marriage, entitled to benefit under Table II. of the schedules attached to the law, that is, his previous contributions are treated as a lump sum, by which an annuity is purchased for his widow.

Pensions under the law are not assignable, nor can they be attached for debt, other than debts to the Government.

Pensions are to cease to orphans, in the case of sons at 18, of daughters at 21, or on marriage.

Interest at 6 per cent. is allowed on the fund by the Treasury.

Law 12 of 1875. "A Law for regulating Railways."

This law was introduced in consequence of the report and recommendation of a select committee, to whom was referred a petition which had been presented to the Legislative Council in the last session, complaining of the deficient accommodation afforded by the Jamaica Railway. The principal Act relating to railway was the 7 Vict. c. 25., since which Act (with the exception of Law 28 of 1873, relating to byelaws) there had not been any legislation on the subject of railways worth mention. The provisions of existing Acts are not affected by the law now under report. This law aims simply at regulating railways in the interest of the public, and for their better security and protection, but it interferes as little as possible with the affairs of the company as a commercial undertaking. With this object a selection of clauses was made from the English Railway Acts, and incorporated in this law.

Law 13 of 1875. "A Law to amend 'The Immigration Acts 1869, as to the expenses of Union Hospitals for Immigrants."

The rate formerly chargeable on employers of immigrants for the maintenance of Coolie Union Hospitals was found inadequate to defray the cost of the hospitals. The sums paid by employers of immigrants on this account in 1871-72 was 2,232*l.*, and the expenditure incurred was 5,866*l.*; the difference being therefore 3,634*l.* In 1872-73 this difference advanced to 5,697*l.*, and in 1873-74 to 6,798*l.*

In each of these three years the immigration fund has suffered loss to the extent of this excess of expenditure over receipts in these hospitals; and as it appeared that in the financial year 1874-75 there would probably be a loss to the fund on this account of 7,672*l.*, it was considered necessary to introduce a measure imposing upon the employer a charge sufficient to cover the cost of the immigrant in hospital. In the law the daily rate is fixed at a sum not exceeding 1*s.* 6*d.* for each immigrant sent into hospital, and the amount to be charged within this maximum is left to the discretion of the Governor.

Law 14 of 1875. "A Law relating to Wrecks, Casualties to
" Ships, and Salvage."

JAMAICA.

This law was passed in consequence of the circumstances which attended the wreck of the barque "Iphigenia," on the coast of Grand Cayman, at the end of 1873. Prior to the passing of this law there was no law in Jamaica relating to wrecks and salvage, except the Act of 53 Geo. 3. c. 25. The latter Act was inefficient to protect the interest of shipowners and insurers, and it gave inadequate redress to persons injured by wrecking. The law is closely framed upon Part VIII. of the Imperial Merchant Shipping Act, 1854, and the Acts aiding or amending the principal Act. This law extends also to the Turks and Caicos Islands and the Cayman Islands.

Law 17 of 1875. "A Law for the establishment and regulation of Fire Brigades where required."

This law provides for the establishment of fire brigades where required throughout the Island. It is framed on the Kingston Fire Brigade Law, 44 of 1872, which was partly founded on the English Act 28 & 29 Vict. c. 90.

In connexion with this law it may be observed that it having been proposed, first by the parish of Hanover and afterwards by that of St. James, that a law for establishing a fire brigade in those parishes should be enacted, it was considered expedient to introduce a law which would apply generally to all the parishes of the Island rather than to legislate separately for each parish.

Law 18 of 1875. "A Law to provide for and regulate the establishment and collection of a Kingston Water Rate, and in aid of Law 15 of 1871."

Under the former system of water supply, water was only supplied to the inhabitants of Kingston under private contract. Each householder might go to the commissioners' office and enter into a contract to be supplied with water in a given quantity and at a given rate. If a householder did not enter into such an agreement he was not supplied with water. Consequently a large number of persons did not take water, although there is little doubt that they consumed the water for which they did not pay. Therefore those who did take water under arrangements with the company paid for their supply in excess of that which it would be necessary to charge them if other persons who consumed the water paid for it in like manner. The new water supply being ready for distribution, it has been thought desirable to amend the former system by distributing the water rate equitably over the whole of the household property in Kingston, by which means a revenue will easily be obtained sufficient to cover the interest on the loan raised for the purchase and completion of the water-works, to pay the working expenses, and to establish a sinking fund for the redemption of debentures.

Law 19 of 1875. "A Law to raise by Loan 23,500*l.* for Colonization purposes."

JAMAICA.

Previous to the commencement of the financial year 1867-68, the whole cost of colonization and return passage was borne by general revenues under 22 Vict. c. 1. s. 71. by an annual payment of 20s. for every immigrant alive on the 10th of November in each year. This provision being found excessive was repealed by Law 17 of 1868, sect. 1, and 3,000*l.* of the fund's own money annually appropriated to the service. Under resolutions of Council dated 15th of August 1872, 5,000*l.* a year from general revenue was again voted for colonization, and appropriated in payment of bounties to immigrants in lieu of return passages, but it was decided that in the circumstances of the Colony it ought not to be charged with any larger share of the cost of immigration than this yearly appropriation.

The question was raised whether the bounties paid between 1867 and 1873 should be repaid to the immigration fund from the general revenue, and it was submitted to the Secretary of State for his decision, who authorised the repayment provided the state of the finances would admit of it. The opinion of the Legislative Council was sought on the point, and a select committee of that body to whom the matter was referred reported,

“ That they concur in the opinion expressed by his Excellency the Governor that the finances of the Colony will admit of the repayment to the immigration fund from the general revenues of the Colony.”

“ Your committee further report, that in their opinion the repayment which may be taken at 23,000*l.* should be made at once to the immigration fund, and that for that purpose a loan at five per cent. should be raised and made redeemable at the furthest at the end of 20 years.”

This report was adopted by the Council, and a Bill was brought in and passed into law giving effect to the recommendation of the select committee.

Law 21 of 1875. “ A Law for the relief of Colonial Seamen found in distress abroad.”

This law provides for the relieving and sending home seamen employed in the merchant service of this Colony and reduced to distress in foreign parts.

Law 22 of 1875. “ A Law to transfer to ‘ the Incorporated Lay Body of the Church of England in Jamaica,’ real Estate in the Diocese of Jamaica vested in Trustees for the use of the said Church.”

This law was passed at the request of the incorporated lay body, by whose solicitor the Bill as first introduced was prepared. The law gives the incorporated lay body such power of disposition over the lands specified in the schedule as they had under their charter over the lands vested in them. This is not an unrestricted power of disposition, but is subject to certain provisions and to the performance of any special trusts on which the lands may have been acquired.

The recitals of the preamble set forth the circumstances under which the law was thought necessary.

Law 23 of 1875. "A Law to authorise 'the Jamaica Street ' 'Car Company, Limited,' to lay down and maintain 'Tramways ' 'in the Streets and Roads of Kingston and other parishes."

The object of this law, which was introduced and passed as a private Bill, is clearly shown by its title. It is founded for the most part on the Tramways Act, 1870 (Imperial), 33 & 34 Vict. c. 78.

Law 25 of 1875. "A Law in aid of Law 3 of 1870, and to " define the Jurisdiction of the Clerks of Petty Sessions."

This law was intended to remove certain doubts which had arisen on the construction of section 12 of Law 3 of 1870.

Finance.

The accounts for the year 1874-75, excluding the immigration accounts, which are separately treated, show an apparent deficiency of 5,917*l.*, the revenue having been 527,019*l.*, and the expenditure 532,935*l.* If, however, the expenses of past colonization, amounting to 23,500*l.*, defrayed out of a loan raised for the purpose, be taken out of the expenditure, the revenue will appear at 17,583*l.* in excess of the expenditure. Of this amount 16,941*l.* belongs to general revenues, and 642*l.* to revenues appropriated to particular heads of service, such as parochial roads, relief of the poor, &c.

The services on roads and works for some portion of the expenditure on which it had been intended to resort to past balances, have been entirely met from the revenue receipts within the year.

Immigration Services.

The revenue and expenditure on account of immigration services for the year were as follow, including the sum of 23,500*l.* contributed from general revenues and raised by loan for colonization purposes between the years 1868 and 1872.

		£
Revenue	-	- 63,919
Expenditure	-	- 53,585

This contribution of 23,500*l.* has obviated the necessity of any addition to the immigration loan this year.

JAMAICA.

The following table shows the whole of the Treasury receipts in the year 1874-75, both of revenue and of other moneys, as compared with those of the year immediately preceding:—

—	1874-5.	1873-4.	Increase.	Decrease.
Import duties - - -	£ 266,790	£ 251,401	£ 15,389	£ —
Tonnage, light dues - - -	3,257	3,182	75	—
Excise, rum duties - - -	97,056	95,073	1,983	—
Spirit licenses - - -	16,767	16,800	—	33
Trade licenses, old - - -	534	550	—	16
" new - - -	4,099	3,848	251	—
Land tax, old, main roads - - -	8,011	8,794	—	783
" new, property tax - - -	4,834	4,974	—	140
Poor rate, house tax - - -	21,216	24,716	—	3,500
Parochial road tax, horsekind and wheels - - -	25,600	25,336	264	—
Tax on stock, &c. (arrears) - - -	6	16	—	10
Dog tax - - -	172	142	30	—
Post office - - -	15,035	14,743	292	—
Miscellaneous - - -	46,231	39,053	7,178	—
Stamps - - -	15,115	15,334	—	219
Interest on securities for sinking funds - - -	524,723	503,962	20,761	—
	2,296	1,881	415	—
	527,019	505,843	21,176	—
<i>Immigration Revenues.</i>				
Export duties - - -	19,780	19,619	161	—
Capitation tax, &c. - - -	14,384	10,322	4,062	—
Interest on securities for sinking funds - - -	208	122	86	—
Other interest - - -	1,047	893	154	—
Contribution from general revenue -	5,000	5,000	—	—
Repayment from " "	23,500	—	23,500	—
	590,938	541,799	49,139	—
<i>Receipts on Debt Account.</i>				
Law 19 of 1875 - - -	23,500	—	23,500	—
Excess of deposits in Treasury over withdrawals - - -	—	27,716	—	27,716
Grand total receipts -	614,438	569,515	44,923	—

The great increase shown under the head of import duties was chiefly due to the larger importation of bread stuffs, rendered necessary in consequence of the destruction of the crops of the peasantry by the hurricane of November 1874, further alluded to under the head of trade. It will be observed that the total receipts in the past year exceeded those of the year 1873-74 by 49,139*l.*, which sum, however, includes the amount of the loan for colonization purposes, viz., 23,500*l.*

Below is a table showing the Treasury disbursements of the year under report, both on account of current expenditure and

on all other accounts, contrasted with those of the preceding year :—

Establishments.	1874-5.	1873-4.	Increase.	Decrease.
Civil	30,928	30,349	579	—
Judicial	22,108	22,044	64	—
District courts	13,179	12,839	340	—
Revenue	32,106	31,681	425	—
Botanic gardens	4,966	4,984	—	18
Post office	16,191	15,852	339	—
Ecclesiastical	16,387	16,994	—	607
Medical	36,737	35,959	778	—
Constabulary	49,273	45,321	3,952	—
Prisons, penitentiary, and reformatory	31,847	28,127	3,720	—
Education	20,580	19,908	677	—
Miscellaneous	17,447	9,128	8,319	—
Colonization of immigrants	28,500	5,000	23,500	—
Military	5,161	5,228	—	67
Roads and bridges	81,427	64,634	16,793	—
Public buildings	32,888	34,443	—	1,555
Land expenses	—	1,297	—	1,297
Pensions	12,592	14,423	—	1,831
Lighthouses	1,269	1,351	—	82
Harbour masters	72	72	—	—
Parochial expenditure	37,633	35,257	2,376	—
Steam communication with New York	3,268	4,875	—	1,607
Interest, &c., debt	38,376	40,855	—	2,479
	532,935	480,616	52,319	9,543
<i>Disbursements other than Expenditure.</i>				
Sinking funds	10,017	10,377	640	—
Redemption of debt	4,650	—	4,650	—
" from surplus	—	6,000	—	6,000
Total disbursements, exclusive of charges on immigration fund account	547,602	496,993	50,609	—
Immigration	53,585	56,647	—	3,062
Grand total disbursements	601,187	553,640	47,547	—

Pensions.

During the year one pension of 16*l.* was granted in compensation for abolition of office.

The pension list was relieved by death to the extent of 2,038*l.*, drawn by 16 different pensioners.

Debt.

A loan of 23,500*l.* was raised during this year, under the provisions of Law 19 of 1875, to repay to the immigration fund the amount paid as bounties to coolies who elected to remain in the Colony instead of returning to India in the years 1868 to 1873 inclusive, it being considered that such payments were a fair

JAMAICA. charge on the general revenues. This loan was taken up from savings bank balances, and has been paid off from surplus balances during the preparation of this report.

A further sum of 30,000*l.* was raised during the year by the Kingston and Liguanea Waterworks Commissioners, and 30,000*l.* by the Rio Cobre Canal Commissioners, to meet expenses connected with those works. The total amounts raised by these commissioners to the close of the year under report stood at 128,200*l.* and 90,000*l.* respectively.

During the year 3,150*l.* of debt, as the debentures became payable, were paid off from deposits in the chest, and 1,500*l.* was paid off from the accumulated surplus of appropriated revenues.

A sum of 10,016*l.* 17*s.* 3*d.* has been invested in sinking funds for the eventual redemption of debt, and an investment of 3,224*l.* 17*s.* 5*d.* was made from the immigration revenues in sinking funds for the immigration loans.

The public debt directly secured on the general revenues stood as follows on the 30th September in each of the last nine years, after making allowance in each year for the sinking funds actually invested for the eventual redemption of debt:—

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
1867	-	718,952	18	10	1872	-	571,542
1868	-	706,964	18	0	1873	-	554,492
1869	-	686,830	9	2	1874	-	539,108
1870	-	609,505	11	3	1875	-	548,024
1871	-	591,656	5	6			13
							7

From this table are excluded the loans raised for the following special objects, viz.:—

	£
Rio Cobre Canal loan	-
Kingston and Liguanea Waterworks	90,000
loan	-
Kingston Markets	-
Kingston Gasworks	-
	128,200
	20,000
	10,000

The interest paid on debt amounted to 32,262*l.*, and was apportioned as follows:—

	£
On deposits in chest	-
On loans under Imperial guarantee	-
On Island loans	-
	8,554
	12,921
	10,787
	<hr/>
	32,262

The debt secured on the revenues of the immigration fund stood as follows at the corresponding periods:—

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
1867	-	69,138	0	3	1872	-	80,564
1868	-	64,175	14	3	1873	-	78,283
1869	-	59,213	8	3	1874	-	126,428
1870	-	56,138	0	0	1875	-	130,203
1871	-	84,169	7	0			18
							1

The interest paid on immigration loans during the year JAMAICA.
amounted to 6,558*l.*, viz.:—

	£
On guaranteed loans -	- 1,529
Immigration further loan -	- 5,029

Legislative Council.

Mr. Henry Westmoreland was on the 13th of January 1875 appointed to be an unofficial member (of the Legislative Council).

Mr. Daniel Power Trench, Collector-General of the Customs, Excise and Internal Revenue Department, was on the same day appointed to act as an official member (of the Legislative Council) in the room of the Honourable J. W. Stratton, Auditor-General, absent from the Island on leave.

Land.

Notifications under Law 5 of 1871 have been issued for the absolute forfeiture of 29,007 acres of land on which land tax and quit-rents have not been paid for 10 years and longer. Two properties, containing 988 acres, were taken possession of by Government, and the squatters thereon ejected. Seven properties, amounting to 4,693 acres, have been leased to various persons, and 195 acres of land were sold, realising 745*l.* Two properties of the declared values respectively of 100*l.* and 300*l.* were escheated by Government during the year.

Public Works.—Roads and Bridges.

The total expenditure for the year on roads and bridges was 48,258*l.*, as shown below:—

	£
Maintenance and repairs of main roads and bridges - - -	36,090
New works on main roads and bridges - - -	6,054
Parochial services - - - -	6,114
	<hr/>
	48,258

The amount of expenditure under the head of maintenance and repairs is 12,258*l.* in excess of the amount allotted in the estimates. This large excess is due to unusual damages caused by the floods of the months of October and November 1874.

The rate of expenditure for maintenance and repairs, including the restoration of roads, has been at the following rates in each district during the year:—

	£	s.	d.	
Eastern - - - -	62	5	0	per mile.
Northern - - - -	35	0	0	„
Southern - - - -	44	0	0	„
The average on all main roads - -	49	16	0	„

JAMAICA.

The average annual expenditure for maintenance in the preceding years was as under :—

1873-4	-	-	-	-	37 <i>l.</i> per mile.
1872-3	-	-	-	-	33 <i>l.</i> ,,
1871-2	-	-	-	-	31 <i>l.</i> ,,

and from the increased difficulties in and cost of procuring metal for the roads, and the ever-increasing cost of labour, there is much reason for expecting that the average expenditure on the maintenance of roads will continue to increase.

Bridges, &c.

Among the new works on main roads which have been completed and in progress during the year, the following may be mentioned :—

New bridge over the river at the rock near Falmouth.

A sea wall, some 18 chains in length, on the line of main road which enters Lucea from the eastward.

A bridge to carry the main road between Savanna la Mar and Mackfield over the Ferris River.

The road from Hendon Hall to the seaside at Savanna la Mar has been almost entirely reconstructed.

A considerable number of culverts and minor improvements of a permanent character have been constructed on the main roads in various parts of the Island.

Public Hospital, &c.

A service for the supply of hot water baths at the Public Hospital, Kingston, has been completed, and considerable repairs and painting executed.

Some minor improvements have been carried out at the lunatic asylum, parochial hospitals, poor houses, &c.

A new hospital in the Mandeville District Prison has been commenced.

The constabulary station at Half Way Tree has been thoroughly repaired, and a hospital and superintendent's office attached to it.

Miscellaneous.

A survey of Kingston has been completed and several copies of what are two valuable plans, one on a scale of 200 feet to an inch, and the other on a scale of 5 feet to a mile, have been finished.

Kingston and Liguanea Waterworks.

Good progress has been made with these works during the year, and they are reported as on the point of completion, when they will be handed over to the Waterworks Commissioners. One of the filter beds has been in use for some time and has been found to work in a most satisfactory manner.

Kingston Gasworks.

The whole of the ironwork with the exception of the main supply pipes and service meters has been imported. The erection

of the buildings has been commenced, and has advanced about one third towards completion.

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Kingston Slaughter-house.

A slaughter-house for sheep and cattle, an iron building floored with Portland cement, 125 feet long, 30 feet wide, with an average height of 18 feet, has been completed; also a slaughter-house for pigs and turtle, an iron building floored with cement 44 feet long, 25 feet wide, with an average height of 18 feet. The sheep and cattle pens, including the slaughtering pens, cover an area of 145 feet by 125 feet, and 120 feet by 40 feet respectively (or over half an acre). These are strongly fenced in and subdivided, as are also the roads and passages between them and the outer gate. All fittings have been completed, the establishment is now in working order and ready for use under the Slaughter-house Commissioners.

Rio Cobre Irrigation Works.

Certain important structural alterations, which experience gained from unusually heavy floods had shown to be advisable, for strengthening the head works have been carried out. The whole of the cuttings and earthworks of the main line and Caymanas Branch are complete. The proprietors of estates have been invited to make the necessary arrangements for taking water, and the Surveyor-General estimates that in a short time a revenue of 3,000*l.* a year may be expected. He further anticipates that when all the branches that have been sanctioned are complete, a revenue of about 7,800*l.* a year will be produced. The cost of maintenance has hitherto been calculated at 2*½* per centum on the cost of the works, viz., about 2,500*l.* a year, but the engineer for irrigation thinks that about 1,000*l.* a year should cover all expenses of maintenance for some years.

The total cost of the works may be taken at 113,613*l.* and to this cost has to be added the interest on the moneys raised on loan during construction, viz., 12,675*l.* so that the total cost may be taken at 126,500*l.*

District Courts.

The business transacted in these courts during the last six years has been as shown below:—

—	1870.	1871.	1872.	1873.	1874.	1875.
Criminal trials -	1,712	1,831	2,473	2,679	3,210	3,545
Small causes -	5,509	7,321	7,396	8,050	7,982	8,531
Judgment summons -	—	—	—	843	1,397	1,511
Equity cases -	10	13	15	18	7	5
Cases under the land law	137	353	485	241	228	133
Bankruptcy cases -	147	42	5	8	6	4
Probate cases -	43	42	31	29	23	39
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Amount claimed -	29,070	35,958	39,896	41,148	50,325	52,093
Judgment obtained -	14,919	18,580	15,770	19,878	25,778	26,048
Costs -	2,774	3,350	3,493	3,810	4,212	4,812
Court fees -	3,225	4,424	4,432	4,600	4,721	4,994

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There have been 12 appeals from the decisions of the district court judges during the past year, eight in civil and four in criminal cases, resulting in five being affirmed, six altered or reversed, and one criminal appeal dismissed for want of prosecution.

Botanical Gardens.

Castleton.—New mangoes. Last spring 18 new mangoes were propagated by its process of marching, the allied system of grafting not having been, as yet, successfully proved.

Clove Tree.—The clove tree has been propagated from seed for the first time in Jamaica.

Palms.—The collection of palms has been largely augmented during the year. The palmetum is now the richest in this part of the world, and although the great majority of the species are small, many of them have assumed large dimensions with wonderful rapidity, the most striking instance being the stately *Caryota urens*, nine years old, now 60 feet high, with a trunk nearly two feet in diameter.

Amongst the palms introduced this year is a seed of the double cocoanut, *Coco desmaldires*, of the Seychelles. This tree is now becoming very scarce in its native habitat. The average weight of each fruit is 40 pounds, and it is covered with a thick fibrous husk. Each fruit contains one, two, and sometimes three large nuts.

Nutmegs.—550 strong plants have been sold, and 100 more distributed gratuitously in small lots.

Liberian Coffee, &c.—This new variety of coffee is still grown in one of the greenhouses at the Cinchona Plantation. The plants now range in height from two to three feet. The leaves of this variety are particularly large, some of them measuring 14 inches in length and six in width. Some 30 plants of this have been distributed among coffee planters, and in most cases have grown vigorously. From the experiments already made in this way it has been demonstrated that this coffee thrives in warmer altitudes than the common coffee. This fact in itself is a strong recommendation, inasmuch as the famous Jamaica coffee is cultivated at a height of about 4,000 feet, a height only obtainable in one portion of the Island. An additional supply of plants of this kind has again this year been received from Kew Gardens.

A wardian case, containing about 30 plants of another new variety of coffee called the "Cape Coast Coffee," was received from Kew this year. This variety is propagated by cuttings in the space of a few weeks with the greatest facility in the propagating house at the Cinchona Plantation.

Jalap.—Two acres were planted out early in the year and will be ready for cropping shortly, and this experimental culture, which has been carried on under favourable circumstances, will determine the remunerative capabilities of the plant. Previous experiments were not favourably conducted on account of the method pursued in its cultivation and curing.

Tea.—Fair samples of the Assam variety of tea have been manipulated. No plant in the Island grows with more luxuriance and facility than this, and there seems no reason why it could not be extensively grown. Many thousands of acres of land on the slopes of the Blue Mountain range that could be obtained for a few shillings an acre are admirably adapted to this product, and this land is quite unsuited for coffee culture, owing to its being too humid.

Oranges, &c.—In consideration of the rapid growth of the fruit trade with the United States during the past few years, the Superintendent of the Botanical Gardens has strongly urged the cultivation of oranges, and applications have been received for 8,500 plants to be disposed of early in 1876.

In 1870, the first year of any considerable export of fruit to America, the value amounted to 901*l.* In 1874 it increased to upwards of 10,000*l.* The fruits in question consist of bananas, oranges, pines, shaddocks, and limes. It is also encouraging to observe the increasing export of lime juice, the quantity exported having quadrupled since 1870, the value in 1874 having amounted to 5,377*l.* 18*s.*

Eucalyptus Globulus.—Upwards of 2,000 plants of this were distributed to different parts of the Island. In several instances somewhat favourable accounts of their growth have been received, but, as a rule, most of the plants tried in the lowlands have failed. It appears certain that they will not thrive on swampy land, as is popularly supposed; this belief has perhaps arisen from the reputed antiseptic properties of the plants when established in the neighbourhood of marshes.

Hope Experimental Grounds.

The new varieties of canes that were transferred from Castleton Garden last year, and each planted to the extent of about one acre, have been partially cropped and manufactured.

The objects contemplated in the cultivation of these canes at Hope were, firstly, their establishment for propagating purposes; and, secondly, their experimental cultivation, with the view of attesting their value in order to transfer their cultivation to planters. Cultivation for another year at least will be necessary to determine the desired information.

Altogether some 50 new varieties of canes are now in cultivation at Hope.

Salangore Cane.—This variety of cane is now established in most parts of the Island, some planters having planted it to the extent of several acres. The ensuing crop will determine its comparative value, as well as the conditions of climate to which it is adapted.

Timber Trees, &c.—The total number of Indian teak plants permanently planted out is 581, and the number of mahogany plants is 600. Several acres of *Divi Diri* have also been planted.

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Palisadoes Plantation.

The number of cocoanuts planted during the year on the Palisadoes is 2,000, making a total now planted out of 18,000. Only 3,500 of these were planted prior to 1873, so that the great majority are still small plants. The rainfall of the year was only 23 inches but it fell at favourable intervals, thereby rendering good service to the young plants, which may now be said to be out of danger of even a prolonged drought.

Parade Garden.

During the year under report irrigation pipes have been laid throughout the garden and every part of the ground is watered by means of hydrants and hose with a powerful pressure. Many of the trees and shrubs have grown vigorously and rapidly, and the shrubbery bounding the iron railing is now getting thick. The Kingston public have taken considerable interest in this garden as a place of resort.

Cinchona Plantations.

The first permanent planting out of Cinchonas was made near the end of the year 1868, to the extent of 40 acres; the number of acres annually planted being as follows:—

1868	-	-	40 acres.	1871-72	-	40 acres.
1869	-	-	20 "	1872-73	-	40 "
1870	-	-	30 "	1873-74	-	40 "
1870-71	-	-	40 "	1874-75	-	50 "

The total area planted is thus about 300 acres. The number of plants to each acre averages about 400, hence the total number of plants permanently planted out is approximately 120,000. Of this number *C. Succirubra* and *C. Officinalis*, with their varieties, comprise each some 50,000 plants, and *C. Calisaya* 20,000. The cultivation of *C. Pahudiana*, of which several thousand plants were established, has been abandoned, owing to its proving unsuited to the climate. The cultivation of *C. Micrantha*, of which only a few hundred plants were set, has not been extended.

At the commencement of this enterprise in Jamaica it was an important object to ascertain by actual experiment what species of the more precious quinine-yielding Cinchonas would accommodate themselves to the conditions of our climate. The three most important species, viz., *C. Calisaya*, *C. Succirubra*, and *C. Officinalis*, were with the least possible delay, extensively propagated and planted out.

All the seeds from which our plants were propagated came from Ceylon. The seeds of *C. Officinalis* were received in larger quantities than any other species. They were propagated with expedition, and largely planted. By way of experiment they were planted very thickly together, but they have since been thinned out. 60 acres of this kind, numbering about 50,000 plants, were established during the first three years of the existence of the

plantations. In 1872 the first analysis of Jamaica barks was made, *C. Calisaya* and *C. Succirubra* were highly satisfactory, but *C. Officinalis* was reported upon unfavourably, and no further attempt has since been made to extend the cultivation of it.

Considerable delay in the extension of the valuable *C. Calisaya* and *C. Succirubra* has been occasioned by the large mortality experienced during the past two years in the propagation by seedlings. This difficulty has now been quite overcome, the propagating house having recently been fitted up with hot-water apparatus, whereby the requisite heat ensures the propagation of *Cinchonas* by seed or by cuttings at the rate of many thousands a month.

The area of woodland felled for the extension of the plantations is nearly 100 acres, and this will be planted with *Calisaya* and *Succirubra* during the year 1876.

The spontaneous reproduction of *Cinchonas*, as before remarked, is a gratifying fact in connexion with their history in Jamaica, and it may be observed that *C. Calisaya* and *C. Succirubra* are beginning to reproduce themselves in the same way as *C. Officinalis*. This circumstance is usually regarded as a sure criterion of the adaptability of a plant to a given climate. There can be no doubt, therefore, that in a year or two abundance of naturalised seedlings will be obtainable for cultivation by private enterprise or otherwise, and hence their artificial propagation need no longer be resorted to.

The height of the first and second years' planting of *C. Succirubra* and *Micrantha* ranges from 15 to 27 feet, the circumference near the ground being from 12 to 20 inches. The average height of *C. Officinalis* is about 8 to 12 feet, with proportionately sized stems.

Plants and seeds have been sent to Kew Gardens and the Governor of the Bahamas, plants to Governor of Saint Lucia, Governor of Honduras, Mexico, seeds to Government of India.

Education.

Elementary Schools.—The acting inspector of schools, in the annual report of the inspection of schools under the Government Regulations of 1867, records his opinion that "on reviewing the " work of education as a whole, there is every reason to feel " satisfied with the results."

That "there is a growing desire on the part of parents to have " their children well-trained; the annual visits of the inspectors " have contributed to bring about this feeling, for considerable " interest is shown in the country districts as to the result of the " examination.

"Should the school happen to take a high class the children " speak of it in all the districts round, and thus a wholesome ri- " valry is maintained, and others are excited to increased exertion.

"While, however, public interest is awakened on this subject " we must not expect impossibilities, a work like this must go up " gradually and will take a long time before it reaches its full " development, but we may safely conclude from the experience " of the past eight years that it will continue to increase and be

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" the means of improving and elevating the social condition of " the masses in this Island."

Five hundred and twenty-six schools were inspected during 1875, giving an increase of 26 over the total for the previous year.

On comparing the results of the year's inspection with those of 1868, and further comparing those results with the per-centages of 1874, there is a falling off in the per-centages of (1) average attendance, and (2) numbers of pupils present at inspection. In 1874 the number of children on the books was 43,135, the number for 1875 was only 41,023, showing a falling off in numbers of 2,112. The decrease in these respects was due to causes which affected the labouring population of the Island. The effects of the severe weather in the latter part of 1874 were not felt until the early part of 1875, when provisions became very scarce, and parents, being unable to give their children the usual supply of food to take with them to school, were forced to keep them at home. In addition to this, the continued prevalence of small-pox and measles in some parts of the Island hindered many parents from enrolling their children's names in the school lists, and it has been remarked by the inspector that from these causes " the past year has been an exceptionally hard year."

In point of efficiency the schools continue to improve, as will be seen by the following :—

In 1868, of 286 schools examined there were only one *first* and six *second* class schools, while in 1875, of 526 schools examined there were 31 *first* and 144 *second* class schools.

The number of schools applying for Government aid has steadily increased since 1868. This year there were 555 applications against 536 last year, showing an increase of 19 schools.

During the year there were 41,023 children attending the schools under Government inspection. Of this number the inspector reports that 50 per cent. could write any ordinary sentence from dictation in fair legible characters, and 30 per cent. could cipher in the four simple rules and onwards. Over 1,000 children were nearly ready to leave school, being able to perform business calculations of the highest type, and to express in writing their sentiments with clearness and decision.

The total amount of grants in aid of elementary schools for the year was expended as follows :—

	£	s.	d.
462 schools passed regularly and received	- 12,485	11	0
26 exceptional schools, allowed	- -	241	5 0
488 aided according to results	- -	12,726	16 0
10 received advances, but failed	- -	82	0 0
19 received advances, but were closed at time of inspection	- - -	166	0 0
517 total number aided with annual grants	- 12,974	16	0
Amount of opening and special grants	- 1,484	0	0
Total to elementary schools	- -	<u>14,458</u>	<u>16</u> 0

Immigration.

In the year 1874-75, three ships arrived from Calcutta with immigrants. Of 1,258 souls embarked, 1,250 more were landed in the Colony, the mortality at sea being 18, equal to a per-cent-age of 1.43. This death rate shows a marked decrease as compared with the death rate of the previous year, the latter being 7.79 per cent.

During the year seven estates, hitherto cultivated entirely by native labour, were supplied with immigrants. Of the 244 sugar estates now under cultivation, 104 have indentured immigrants, and several others employ Coolies whose period of indentured service has expired.

The Coolies ex "Poonah" and "Alnwick Castle" in 1870 completed during the year their term of indentured service. With few exceptions, they have remained as labourers on the estates to which they were indentured on arrival.

The mortality tables show a considerable increase in the death rate as compared with last year :—

1873-74	-	-	-	-	2.86
1874-75	-	-	-	-	3.55

The Agent-General of Immigration attributes this principally to the very wet and stormy weather in the fall of the year, and to an outbreak of hospital gangrene in the Union Hospital at Linstead. This outbreak is ascribed by the medical officer in charge of the hospital to the admission of Coolies from Wakefield Estate suffering from ulcers, but in a weak and debilitated condition, caused by their having been kept on the property for some days instead of being sent to hospital when first taken ill. For this neglect the overseer in charge of the estate was dismissed by the proprietor.

It being found necessary to relieve the dépôt of a number of chronic invalids, the ship "Chetah" was chartered and despatched with 356 Coolies. Of these, 24 were time-expired immigrants entitled to return passages, and 28 had completed their indentured service, but not having been 10 years in the Island were only entitled to passages on payment. The sum of 2,027*l.* 4*s.* was lodged by 36 Coolies of the two last-mentioned classes, for which they received bills payable in India.

Three cases of murder by indentured immigrants occurred during the year; these were all cases of wives murdered by their husbands.

The number of immigrants applied for for the next season was 685, and of this number 100 have been applied for for the service of two estates in the parish of St. Elizabeth, which have not hitherto employed indentured immigrants.

Government Savings Bank.

The number of depositors and the amount of deposits in savings banks for the last 10 years are shown below :—

Year.	Number of Depositors.	Amount of Deposits.
1866	2,276	£ 56,740
1867	2,278	54,807
1868	2,524	58,913
1869	3,004	74,394
1870	{ *469 +2,205 } 2,674	{ *16,200 +63,486 } 79,686
1871	{ *2,024 +982 } 3,026	{ *93,776 +11,702 } 105,478
1872	3,396	142,240
1873	3,962	158,933
1874	4,582	179,176
1875	5,061	228,028

In the above amount of 228,028*l.* are included deposits on account of public funds to the extent of 38,191*l.*, and deposits of the Court of Chancery to the extent of 17,628*l.*

Trade.

The value of the imports for each of the last nine years is shown below :—

	£		£
1867 -	- 859,186	1871-72	- 1,559,602
1868 -	- 1,023,866	1872-73	- 1,733,121
1869 -	- 1,224,414	1873-74	- 1,762,817
1870 -	- 1,300,455	1874-75	- 1,759,942
1870-71	- 1,331,185		

The dutiable articles which show an increase are bread, flour, mackerel, shingles, meal, rice, and cotton manufactures, while those which show a decrease are ready-made clothing, hardware and cutlery, haberdashery, and millinery. The increase in the former articles and decrease in the latter is attributed to the failure of the ground provisions of the peasantry from the effects of the hurricane in November 1874, which compelled them to expend in necessities of life the money which would otherwise have been expended in dress and fancy articles.

It will also be noticed that while the total value of all imports in 1874-75 appears at a decrease of 2,875*l.* when compared with those of 1873-74, yet the value of the dutiable articles imported is considerably larger in this last year, being in—

	£		£
1874-75	- - - -	1871-72	- 1,551,835
1873-74	- - - -	1872-73	- 1,536,089
showing an increase of			- £15,746 in 1874-75.

* Government savings bank.

† Private savings bank.

The following table of articles imported which were freed from duty in 1867 is given in continuation of similar tables in previous reports:—

—	1867.*	1868.*	1869.*	1870.*	1870-71.	1871-72.	1872-73.	1873-74.	1874-75.
Steam engines -	101	3,046	6,904	5,460	4,738	14,083	28,008	11,485	18,152
Mills -	1,072	1,882	3,822	3,434	9,825	21,644	13,804	10,219	5,803
Other machinery -	6,879	8,023	6,644	7,844	11,420	5,168	9,149	5,026	11,331
Pans for boiling sugar -	603	984	2,409	4,676	4,301	6,052	4,603	2,839	3,649
Pipes for fluids -	374	1,331	1,202	2,493	2,165	1,801	19,687	1,801	1,830
Stills -	559	1,174	2,977	1,698	1,878	1,906	6,076	3,986	6,848
Shoos of all sorts	18,023	19,479	17,363	12,180	13,187	16,743	17,051	17,070	20,299
Staves -	5,587	6,418	3,847	3,823	5,431	7,945	5,205	15,207	21,660
Wood hoops -	1,225	2,773	2,264	2,981	3,857	2,653	1,866	1,822	2,192
Iron, galvanized -	1,238	1,985	1,902	3,142	38,18	5,686	6,971	5,339	5,746
Iron, other manu-factures -	3,184	1,174	1,215	1,933	84	56	—	462	—
Miscellaneous -	858	2,719	2,004	3,348	2,369	5,387	5,243	8,559	3,050
	39,703	50,988	52,552	53,012	63,073	89,031	117,648	78,815	100,550

The increase under the head of other machinery is due to a large importation for the Kingston Gasworks.

The value of the exports for each of the last nine years is shown below:—

—	Values.		
	Of Produce and Manufactures of the Colony.	Of British, Foreign, and other Colonial Produce and Manufactures,	Total.
1867†	£ 1,016,554	£ 28,540	£ 1,045,094
1868†	1,098,332	40,472	1,138,804
1869†	1,052,562	110,207	1,162,769
1870†	1,158,835	124,171	1,283,026
1870-71	1,196,532	52,158	1,248,685
1871-72	1,348,858	69,585	1,418,443
1872-73	1,144,173	81,838	1,226,011
1873-74	1,369,507	72,573	1,442,080
1874-75	1,359,868	50,616	1,410,484

The exports of the principal staples for the last nine years are shown in the following table:—

Exports.	1867.	1868.	1869.	1870.	1870-71.
Sugar, hogsheads -	-	31,206	36,259	29,268	30,747
Rum, puncheons -	-	18,834	20,274	15,270	16,897
Coffee, lbs. -	-	6,264,861	7,758,985	5,025,812	9,047,284
Pimento, lbs. -	-	7,595,800	4,373,259	6,575,249	5,243,109
Dyewoods, fustic, and logwood, tons	48,481	49,129	118,678	84,744	59,951
Ginger, lbs. -	-	1,728,075	2,036,921	1,261,873	680,492
Arrowroot, lbs. -	-	44,566	27,346	11,731	6,343

* These figures are for the calendar years.

† These are calendar years.

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(continued.)

Exports.	1871-72.	1872-73.	1873-74.	1874-75.
Sugar, hogsheads -	-	35,353	28,428	28,398
Rum, puncheons -	-	20,113	16,584	19,350
Coffee, lbs.	-	9,510,739	7,199,144	10,311,427
Pimento, lbs.	-	5,140,898	6,024,551	5,762,256
Dyewood, fustic, and logwood, tons		80,699	52,952	65,241
Ginger, lbs.	-	599,766	815,659	1,181,789
Arrowroot, lbs.	-	13,193	2,470	1,636

The statement of the value of the fruit exported is continued for this year:—

	£
1871-72	6,190
1872-73	4,750
1873-74	10,397
1874-75	9,337

*Police and Prisons.*I.—*Police.*

The effective strength of the constabulary on the 30th of September 1875 was 603 of all ranks, and the rural police numbered 382, making the effective police establishment 985.

During the year the constabulary arrested 5,126 persons on view, and 2,026 on warrants, and served 8,301 with summonses to appear and answer. These made an aggregate of 15,453 persons accused during the year of various offences, who, with 302 whose cases undisposed of on the 30th of September of the previous year, were thus dealt with by magistrates:—

Discharged on preliminary inquiry	-	-	452
Convicted	-	-	5,640
Acquitted	-	-	4,906
Sent to superior courts	-	-	4,492
Remaining uninvestigated on 30th Sept. 1875	-	265	
Total	-	-	15,755

The offences disposed of by the magistrates may thus be classified:—

Against the person	-	-	-	3,075
Against property	-	-	-	3,390
Miscellaneous offences	-	-	-	4,379
Breaches of the revenue laws	-	-	-	44
Military and naval offences	-	-	-	110
Total	-	-	-	10,998

The offences transferred to the superior courts numbered 4,492, which with 282 that remained untried on the 30th of September

1874 made 4,774. Of these, 2,350 resulted in convictions, and 2,119 in acquittals, leaving 305 untried on the 30th of September 1875.

The convictions in the superior courts for offences against the person numbered 731, and the convictions for offences against property, 1,026. The convictions for miscellaneous offences were 533; for breaches of the revenue laws, 59; and for a military offence, 1; making the total of 2,350. The acquittals stood thus: 916 for offences against the person, and 660 for offences against property; 481 for miscellaneous offences; 61 for breaches of the revenue laws; and 1 for a military offence; making 2,119, as previously stated.

The offences against the person during the last three years included several cases of homicidal crimes. In 1873 there were 6 indictments in the assizes for murder, 17 for manslaughter, and 1 for attempt at murder; in 1874, 6 for murder, 8 for manslaughter, and 1 for attempt at murder; in 1875, 7 for murder, 10 for manslaughter, and 9 for attempt at murder.

The convictions in the several years were—

—	1873.	1874.	1875.
Murder - - - -	3	5	4
Manslaughter - - - -	13	4	5
Attempt at murder - - - -	1	1	7

The murder cases in 1875 included a case of wife murder and a case of child murder. The culprit (a Coolie) in the first was executed, and the woman had the capital sentence commuted to penal servitude for life.

Of the offences against property, the convictions for prædial larceny in the three years ending 30th September were—

In 1873	-	-	-	-	719
„ 1874	-	-	-	-	671
„ 1875	-	-	-	-	968

The increase in the latter year consisted of convictions in the superior courts which carried aggravated punishments; in many cases flogging was superadded to imprisonment with hard labour.

The other larceny cases which resulted in convictions numbered—

In 1873	-	-	-	-	1,173
„ 1874	-	-	-	-	1,711
„ 1875	-	-	-	-	1,496

showing a decrease of 215 when compared with 1874, but an increase of 323 over 1873.

Highway robberies have not been frequent.

The arrests and adjudication for arson exceed those of the year 1874. In 1874, 75 persons were charged before the magistrates

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Convicted	-	-	-	-	5
Acquitted	-	-	-	-	9
Remaining undisposed of on 30th September 1874	-	-	-	-	5

The number of arrests in 1875 was 33, 15 were discharged on magisterial inquiry, 15 sent to the circuit courts, and 3 remained uninvestigated. There were also in the calendars of the circuit courts 5 remanents for arson, which with the 15 new cases made 20; 6 resulted in judgments for the Crown, 13 in judgments for the prisoners, and 1 remained over for trial in the next year. Thus in two years, of 33 persons who were brought to trial for arson, 11 were convicted and 22 acquitted, the acquittals being just double the number of the convictions.

The detectives were not inactive during the year. The services performed by them may thus be summarised from the return received from the late detective inspector.

Offences.	Apprehended.	Convicted.	Discharged or acquitted.
Against the person	- 19	9	10
Against property	- 158	88	70
Miscellaneous	- 65	53	12
Total	- 242	150	92

The report of the Registrar of Habitual Criminals shows that 95 habitual criminals were sent to the General Penitentiary and other prisons during 1875, as against 56 in the preceding year.

The allocation of the sub-officers of the ordinary constabulary has been rearranged, so as to place each station in charge of a sub-officer of a substantive rank. This arrangement will greatly facilitate the discharge of the duties of the constabulary in aid of the coroners, and ensure to persons arrested the means of obtaining bail at the stations to which they may be taken for offences that are bailable by the police.

A valuable addition has been made to the constabulary of Kingston by the formation of a water police, which have already done some good service, and which will, when they become more familiar with their peculiar duties, be of considerable benefit in preventing and detecting larcenies from the shipping wharves and warehouses of the port.

A similar force has been formed at Black River in St. Elizabeth's, where large quantities of logwood and other valuable

produce are constantly stolen by those who make depredations of this kind their regular trade or calling.

Other means for improving the police system of the Island have been carried out, which it is hoped may be productive of substantial benefits to the general community.

II.—*Prisons.*

The number of prisoners in custody in all the prisons and gaols for each of the last five years on the 30th of September were as follows:—

1871	-	-	-	-	856
1872	-	-	-	-	983
1873	-	-	-	-	1,012
1874	-	-	-	-	1,003
1875	-	-	-	-	1,130

showing an increase in the number of prisoners on the 30th of September 1875, as compared with the same day of the previous year, of 127.

There has been an increase in the following prisons, viz. :—

St. Catherine's District Prison	-	-	49
Mandeville	-	-	15
St. Mary's	-	-	27
Falmouth District Prison and Cornwall			
County Gaol	-	-	20
Montego Bay Short Term Prison		-	4
Morant Bay	-	-	11
St. Ann's Bay	-	-	7
Port Antonio	-	-	8
Middlesex and Surry County Gaol		-	6

There has been a decrease in the following prisons, viz. :—

General penitentiaries	-	-	6
Hanover District Prison	-	-	8
Black River Short Term Prison		-	6

The cost of diet per diem for the last four years of prisoners in the gaols, district and short term prisons has been as follows, viz. :—

—	1872.	1873.	1874.	1875.
	<i>d.</i>	<i>d.</i>	<i>d.</i>	<i>d.</i>
Middlesex and Surry County Gaol	-	2.820	2.702	3.050
St. Catherine's District Prison	-	2.974	3.089	3.198
Falmouth District Prison and Cornwall				
County Gaol	-	-	3.596	3.947
Mandeville District Prison	-	-	2.894	3.509
Hanover	"	"	2.556	3.314
St. Mary's	"	"	2.753	3.295
Morant Bay Short Term Prison	-	-	3.702	4.355
Montego Bay	"	"	3.410	3.754
Black River	"	"	2.563	4.089
St. Ann's Bay	"	"	1.717	3.003
Port Antonio	"	"	—	3.852
				3.638
				3.678

JAMAICA. — The cost of food for prisoners, as will be seen by the above table, is increasing yearly, and there would appear to be no likelihood of its being cheaper during the year 1875-76.

	£	s.	d.
The gross expenditure of the general penitentiaries for the year ending 30th September 1875 has been - - -	13,070	6	9
The gross expenditure for gaols, district and short term prisons for the same period has been - - - -	7,254	13	8
Total - - -	20,325	0	5
The gross earnings from all have been - -	9,227	14	6
Net cost of prisons - -	£11,097	5	11

Making the average net cost of each prisoner, in all the prisons in the Island, 10*l.* 19*s.* 11*½d.* for the year.

General Remarks.

The following particulars of traffic on the Jamaica Railway show an increase in the carriage of merchandise and a small increase in the number of passengers, but a general decrease of other freight, viz. :—

—	1873-74.	1874-75.
Passengers - - - - -	117,128	117,169
Horses - - - - -	614	421
Carriages - - - - -	132	165
Cattle - - - - -	716	591
Sheep - - - - -	463	344
Goats - - - - -	66	92
Pigs - - - - -	893	256
Bundles grass, 28 lbs. - - - - -	452,167	397,081
Bundles wood, 30 lbs. - - - - -	197,350	115,100
Tons merchandise - - - - -	16,146	20,031

The business done by the telegraph office in this Island during the year was as under :—

	1874.	1875.
Messages received from abroad - - -	3,405	2,629
Messages sent - - - - -	3,140	2,405

showing a considerable falling off as compared with last year.

The general health of the Island compares favourably with that of last year, the epidemic of small-pox which then raged so furiously over the Island having almost abated, only a few isolated cases were reported.

Uninterrupted tranquillity and good order have prevailed during the year.

King's House, October 1876. (Signed) W. GREY.

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No. 2.

Governor J. R. LONGDEN, C.M.G., to The EARL OF CARNARVON.
Received November 13, 1876.

Government House, Georgetown,

MY LORD,

October 24, 1876.

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith the Blue Book of British Guiana for the year 1875.

Finances.

2. The revenues collected in 1875 amounted to 352,136*l.* 16*s.* 10*d.*, being less than the revenue of 1874 by 13,321*l.* 1*s.* 10*d.* This falling off in the revenue was not owing to any reduction of taxation, but to the general slackness of trade in 1875, which is conspicuously shown in the general import duties, which produced less by 9,642*l.* 8*s.* 2*d.* than they did in 1874.

3. The expenditure of 1875 was curtailed as much as possible, and amounted to 355,979*l.* 1*s.* 10*d.* This was less than the expenditure of 1874 by 25,124*l.* 4*s.* 4*d.*, and less than what was actually estimated by 18,618*l.* 17*s.* 4*d.*

4. The chief part of this reduction was effected in the department of Public Works, in which a greater amount of work had been estimated for than it was found possible to execute. In other departments of the public service, especially the administration of justice, the cost of the public hospitals, and the maintenance of prisons, the expenditure was considerably above the estimate, owing to causes which I shall have the honour to bring under your Lordship's notice in a later part of this Report.

5. The sum of 355,979*l.* 1*s.* 10*d.*, stated in the Blue Book to be the expenditure of 1875, includes that portion only of the immigration expenditure, amounting to 38,287*l.* 13*s.* 2*d.*, which was contributed from the Colonial Treasury, and does not include that part of the immigration expenditure which was defrayed by the planters, by means chiefly of indenture fees, and which amounted to 76,575*l.* 6*s.* 4*d.*

6. Including the balance of 71,455*l.* 10*s.* 1*d.* remaining in the Treasury chest at the end of 1874, the revenue collected in 1875, the deposits, repayments, and other special receipts, and the planters' contribution to the immigration fund, the total amount of money received at the Colonial Treasury in 1875 was 534,914*l.* 10*s.* 7*d.* The total payments, including the general expenditure, repayment of deposits, special payments, and the planters' share of immigration expenditure, amounted to 452,964*l.* 15*s.* 0*d.*, leaving a balance carried to the year 1876 amounting to 81,949*l.* 15*s.* 0*d.* A very small part of this balance

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Local Revenues.

7. The local revenues of the several incorporated towns and villages amounted in the aggregate to 44,038*l.* 2*s.* 3*d.*, and the expenditure to 45,977*l.* 12*s.* 11*d.*

8. The excess of expenditure over revenue was occasioned by the expenditure of New Amsterdam in completing the works for supplying that town with water. The expenditure amounted to 3,258*l.* 9*s.* 9*d.*, and was chiefly defrayed by means of a loan from the Colonial Government, which is not included in the revenue account.

Public Debt.

9. The public debt of the Colony amounted on the 31st of December 1875 to the sum of 24,447*l.*

10. Besides this, there are the following debts guaranteed by the Colony, the security for the repayment of which is ample, namely:—

	£	s.	d.
For immigration expenses secured on the sugar estates by notes given for indenture fees -	245,100	0	0
Raised for the Corporation of the city of Georgetown - - - - -	65,404	3	4
Raised for the Corporation of New Amsterdam - - - - -	6,250	0	0
Amount due under Parsonage Loan Ordinance	19,986	2	6
Amount due by trustees for St. Philip's Church - - - - -	1,041	13	4
Amount due by trustees for Roman Catholic Cathedral - - - - -	1,041	13	4
Total - - - - -	£338,823	12	6

Public Works.

11. The total amount expended upon public works last year was 43,981*l.* 11*s.* 3*d.*

12. Nearly a third of this expenditure was absorbed in the works for the defence of the lands on each side of the Demerara River from the inroads of the sea. The works on the Georgetown side of the river cost 7,654*l.* 6*s.* 4*d.*, and the works at the Best on the opposite side of the river cost 4,150*l.* 15*s.* 5*d.*, making a total of 13,805*l.* 1*s.* 9*d.* in these works alone.

13. The local telegraph commenced in 1874 was carried on last year at a cost of 5,131*l.* 0*s.* 2*d.* The lines have been completed and opened in the present year, and now extend from Henrietta, at the western end of the county of Essequebo, to Strelton, on the Corentyne River, at the eastern boundary of the Colony.

14. The sum of 6,194*l.* 4*s.* 10*d.* was spent in completing the new prison and warders' houses at Massaruni, a new prison for females at Suddie, and in repairs, enlargement, and improvements to the other prisons in the Colony. Much, however, is still required to be done before the prison accommodation can be pronounced sufficient and proper. The Georgetown Prison is still much too small for the daily average of prisoners both male and female, and I propose to submit to the combined court at their next session estimates of the cost of constructing an entirely new prison for female prisoners of every description, and also for male debtors, prisoners sentenced to simple imprisonment without hard labour, and prisoners committed for trial, keeping the present gaol exclusively for male prisoners sentenced to hard labour, and dividing the associated wards and rooms into separate cells, so that each prisoner shall be confined alone in a separate cell. I may here notice that in the new prison at Massaruni, and in the temporary prisons run up at the Best and at the Alary Creek, there are no associated wards, and every prisoner sent to those prisons is confined in a separate cell.

15. The enlargement of the lunatic asylum cost in 1875 the sum of 3,057*l.* 10*s.* 4*d.* This was a work very urgently needed.

16. A new police station and court-room were built on the Cauje Creek, and other police stations were improved and repaired at an aggregate cost of 3,810*l.* 7*s.* 1*d.*

17. On the Colonial Hospital in Georgetown the sum of 1,348*l.* 9*s.* 11*d.* was expended, partly in the completion of a residence for the assistant surgeons, and partly in laying on water from the waterworks to every floor of the hospital buildings. This last is an improvement to which I attach a very high importance. The Colonial Hospital consists of two large wooden buildings, each two stories in height, and in the event of a fire taking place in any part of the buildings the possible loss of life among the patients before the fire could be arrested or the patients removed would have been appalling. Water has now been laid on from the Lamaha Canal, in connexion with the public waterworks, to every floor and ward in the building, and the necessary hose and jets have been provided for the prompt extinction of fire. Similar precautions have been taken in the Georgetown Prison and in the new almshouse.

Legislation.

18. Seventeen laws were passed in 1875, among which were Ordinances renewing the civil list and clergy list for another period of seven years, an Ordinance to amend the Superannuation Ordinance, and the Annual Tax Ordinance.

19. Among the other laws of 1875 I would notice the Ordinance No. 1., by which the Immigration Ordinance of 1873 is amended so far as to make it optional for all Coolies coming to this Colony as indentured labourers from India, after having previously lived in this or any other West Indian Colony, to refuse to be rationed, and to require payment of their full wages in money from the

time of landing; and in the case of all other Coolies reducing the period during which they *must* be rationed to three months, unless the medical officer of the district shall order otherwise. The law was passed on the urgent representations of the Coolies themselves, many of whom positively refused to take their rations and demanded their full wages in money.

20. Another important law is the Ordinance passed to make the practice of vaccination compulsory.

21. An Ordinance was passed at the instance of the Portuguese Community incorporating a society formed among the immigrants from Madeira for aid and support in sickness or trouble, called "The Portuguese Benevolent Society of British Guiana." The establishment of this society is a satisfactory evidence of the prudence, self reliance, and mutual goodwill existing among this large and useful section of the population.

22. Among the remaining Ordinances was an Ordinance declaring certain days public holidays, and applying to them the provisions of the English Bank Holidays Act, so far as it was applicable; and an Ordinance exempting the Consuls and Vice-consuls of Foreign States, residing in the Colony and not being British subjects, from serving as jurors.

Court of Policy.

23. According to the constitution the senior elective member of the Court of Policy, Mr. J. N. Davson, retired from the Court in July 1875, Mr. J. Drysdale was then elected, but he resigned on leaving the Colony, and Mr. B. S. Bayley was elected in his place.

Civil Establishment.

24. The changes in the staff were not so numerous in 1875 as in the preceding year. Mr. E. H. G. Dalton, late Assistant Government Secretary at Berbice, was appointed to succeed his father as Postmaster; Mr. D. Gallagher was promoted to the office of Assistant Government Secretary; Mr. Vesey, the Harbour-master, retired from the service and was succeeded by Mr. Luckie, who had for many months acted as Harbour-master during Mr. Vesey's illness. I have to record with regret the deaths of no less than three stipendiary magistrates, Mr. H. T. Loughran, Mr. H. T. Chitty, and Mr. D. Broadhead, the two former after only very short periods of service. The death of Dr. Altham, district medical officer of Buxton, deprived the service of an experienced practitioner. Other changes occurred in the junior ranks of the service which are detailed in the Blue Book, but which it is unnecessary to notice in this place.

Pensions.

25. The names of Mr. Gilbert, late Attorney General, the Rev. Mr. Kinnison, late Minister of St. Catherine's, and Mr. Darrell, late Commissary of Taxation, were added to the Pension List in 1875, and the name of Mr. Colebeck was removed. The actual

annual amount of pensions remaining payable out of the Colonial Treasury at the end of the year 1875 was 5,493*l.* 18*s.* 8*d.* This is rather less than four per cent. of the whole charge of the civil, judicial, and ecclesiastical establishments, which (exclusive of the police) amounted in 1875 to 140,443*l.* for salaries alone.

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Population, &c.

26. The total population is still given according to the census of 1871 as 193,491, exclusive of the aboriginal inhabitants. As to the number of these latter there is no reliable information.

27. In my Report on the Blue Book of 1874 I quoted the details of the immigration into and the emigration from the Colony, and the increase and decrease of the population from births and deaths, so far as the same were officially recorded, and the result of the figures showed that the population amounted at the end of 1874 to 218,909.

28. In 1874 there was an immigration into the Colony of 4,346 persons from India,

447	„	„	Barbados,
and 114	„	„	Madeira,

making a total of 4,907

Two ships sailed in 1875 from British Guiana to India, carrying back with them 839 people. Deducting this number from the immigrants there was a net increase to the population in this way of 4,068 persons.

29. There was no recorded increase of the population by natural causes. The number of deaths registered was 8,034, the number of births only 7,825, showing an excess of 209 deaths over the births. In estimating the weight to be attached to this it is most material to note that according to the census of 1871 the number of females over 15 years of age was only 53,188, while the number of males over 15 years of age was 75,132, the disproportion has rather been increased than diminished. It is evident from these proportions that without any reference to climatic influences the births and deaths could not be expected to maintain the ratio that is found in countries where the numbers of the sexes in adult life are more nearly equal.

30. The population at the end of 1874 was found, as I have said, from the official records to be 218,909. Deducting from this the number of people who returned to India, and the excess in the number of births over deaths, and adding the numbers who immigrated into the Colony, the number of the population at the end of 1875 was 222,768.

31. In estimating the general condition of the population due allowance must be made for the circumstances of the Colony and for the climate itself. While there are happily in every walk of life men who show an example of energy and industry worthy of all praise, there are others who allow themselves to indulge in the indolence which the climate is always calculated to induce.

Among the working classes this is especially the case, and as poverty seldom brings with it the absolute hunger and never the cold which the poor shivering beggar feels in England, one of the strongest inducements to industry is wanting. And when to this it is added that the population is so hopelessly inadequate to the demands of the labour market that continued immigration is a condition of the industrial existence of the Colony, and that no man capable of doing the work of an agricultural labourer wants for employment at any time, steady industry could hardly be expected even from a better material than that of the population here. Still, however, the labouring classes do, as a rule, make money. The people who returned in the ships to India last year carried back with them 15,041*l.* 16*s.* in money and jewellery. But notwithstanding this drain the amount in the savings bank at the close of 1875 was scarcely affected, being 118,306*l.* 13*s.* 6*d.* as against 118,325*l.* 9*s.* 11*d.* in 1874. The total number of depositors increased from 6,569 in 1874 to 6,788, notwithstanding a reduction of 98 in the number of East Indian and Chinese depositors owing to the return of two ships to India with Coolies. It is satisfactory to note that the Creole depositors increased from 3,541 to 3,841, being an increase of nearly nine per cent.

Education.

32. The education of the people attracted public attention in a very marked degree in 1875. Soon after my arrival in the Colony in 1874 I became aware of the inferiority, perhaps I might justly use a stronger word, of the instruction given in very many of the public schools, and I appointed a commission to inquire into the whole subject of public education in British Guiana. The commission was not limited to primary schools alone, but embraced an inquiry into all grammar schools and colleges aided or endowed from public funds. The commission consisted of 10 laymen and six ministers of different churches under the presidency of the Chief Justice Sir William Snagg. The Church of England, the Presbyterian Church of Scotland, the Roman Catholic Church, the Wesleyan Mission, and the other nonconformists were all represented on the commission. The commission made two reports, one in April and the other in June 1875, but these reports, with the mass of evidence and valuable information appended to them, were not received from the printers until after the Session of 1875 had closed, and I was not therefore able to bring the report before the combined court in that year. The reports were laid before the combined court in the Session of 1876, and, in a series of resolutions which have been laid before your Lordship, the combined court agreed to make the provision necessary for carrying into effect the recommendations of the commission.

33. These recommendations affect both the primary and secondary schools. In the primary schools the commissioners attribute the admittedly low standard of education to the ineffi-

ciency of the teachers and the irregularity of the attendance of the children. Retaining the present system of denominational schools as best adapted on the whole to the circumstances of the Colony, the commissioners recommended that the salary and position of the school teachers should be improved so as to secure a better class of teachers, that more effectual provision should be made for the training up of teachers, and that the attendance of children at school should be made compulsory. All these recommendations and others of a less important character have been adopted. In the higher education the commissioners recommended that the connexion of the Queen's College Grammar School with the Church of England should be terminated, and that the college should in future be an open institution, not in exclusive connexion with any church. This also has been adopted. The measures which are being taken to carry out these recommendations will form the subject of a future report.

Trade.

34. The imports of the Colony in 1875 were valued at 1,837,151*l.* 3*s.* 7*d.* This is a decrease of 36,068*l.* 5*s.* 11*d.* as compared with the imports of 1874 which amounted to 1,873,219*l.* 9*s.* 6*d.*

35. The decrease was owing to the diminished importation of some few articles. Thus the value of dried salt fish imported in 1874 was 80,420*l.* 6*s.*, while the value of that imported in 1875 was only 58,786*l.* 5*s.* 6*d.*, showing a decrease of 21,634*l.* 0*s.* 6*d.* in this article alone. So again the importation of opium fell off from 25,616*l.* 5*s.* to 12,629*l.* 4*s.* 2*d.*, showing a decrease of 12,986*l.* 0*s.* 10*d.* The importation of oils fell from 36,130*l.* 3*s.* to 24,129*l.* 13*s.* 9*d.*, showing a decrease of 12,000*l.* 9*s.* 3*d.* On the other hand there was an increase in the value of machinery, manures, and some other articles.

36. The value of the exports of 1875 was less than the value of the exports in 1874 by 424,716*l.* 5*s.* 6*d.*

37. The main dependence of the Colony is upon the sugar cane, and the value and quantity of the exports of the produce of the cane is the principal, I would almost say the exclusive factor in determining its progress in financial prosperity. In this most material point the Blue Book of 1875 contrasts unfavourably with that of 1874. Not only is the produce of sugar diminished by 5,032 h hds., a falling off of nearly 5 per cent. from 1874, but the price of that diminished produce is only valued at 17*l.* 15*s.* 2*d.* per hhd., instead of 20*l.*, and the total decrease in the value of colonial sugar exported in 1875 against the export of 1874 amounts to 311,021*l.* 19*s.* 10*d.*, equivalent to a reduction of more than 15*1*/*2* per cent. The exports of the other products of the cane, molasses, and rum were also less in quantity, and were valued at 171,168*l.* 1*s.* 8*d.* less than the exports of 1874, so that the total decrease in the value of the cane produce in 1875 was less by 482,190*l.* 1*s.* 6*d.* than the value of the produce exported

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in 1874. This more than measures the whole decrease in the exports of 1875 as compared with 1874.

38. There was a large re-exportation of imported rice in 1875 amounting in value to 86,972*l.* 5*s.*, showing an increase of 55,054*l.* 10*s.* over the export of this article in 1874.

39. There was also an increase in the value of native woods and shingles exported, amounting in all to 10,318*l.* 3*s.* over the exportation of 1874. The other changes in the quantities of goods exported do not require attention.

Criminal Statistics.

40. In my report on the Blue Book for 1874, I had occasion to deplore the terrible prevalence of crime, great as well as trivial. The accompanying returns show very little improvement. The number of offences reported has, indeed, increased from 17,748 to 20,918; but the number of persons apprehended by the police has fallen from 39,965 to 38,594. The number of summary convictions has fallen from 23,629 to 22,763, and the number of convictions in the Supreme Courts has fallen from 329 to 279. It is satisfactory to notice that the number of convictions under the Immigration Ordinance and the Labour Laws generally, has fallen from 10,904 in 1874 to 7,565, a reduction of more than a fourth.

41. The whole number of persons tried in the superior courts in 1875 was 426 against 482 in the preceding year. Of these 426 persons, 279 were convicted, 119 acquitted, in one case the prisoner was found insane, and 33 cases fell through for want of prosecution. The number of trials for murder in 1875 was 16, of which 6 ended in conviction, 6 in acquittal, 1 on the ground of insanity, and 3 fell through. These numbers, great as they are, show an improvement on the preceding year, when there were 21 trials for murder and 17 convictions.

Gaols and Prisoners.

42. I have already on several occasions brought to your Lordship's notice the insufficiency of the existing prisons to supply the means of confining each prisoner in a separate cell, and the means I had taken to improve the condition of the prisons, by commencing the erection of a new prison with 100 cells at Massaruni (since completed), by the withdrawal of the police who had been quartered in Fellowship Prison, and the restoration of that building to the purposes of a prison, by ordering the erection of temporary prisons, and by arranging for the lighting and patrolling of the associated wards of Georgetown Prison.

43. The new prison at Luddie, in the county of Essequebo was opened for male prisoners only in March 1875. It had been originally intended to use a part of this building for female prisoners, but I did not think this a desirable arrangement, as the whole building was not more than enough to serve for the county of Essequebo. Accordingly I proposed, and the combined court

assented to, a vote of money to build a separate prison on the same premises for females. This has since been completed and the old prison at Capoey has been altogether closed as a prison, and converted into a police station, a purpose for which it is well adapted.

44. The work which must next be undertaken is that pointed out in your Lordship's Despatch, No. 217, dated 28th December last, namely, the reconstruction of the Georgetown Prison in such a manner that every prisoner, both male and female, shall be confined in a separate cell. This is a work which cannot I fear be accomplished without building a new prison for females, as the area within the walls of the Georgetown Prison is not sufficient to afford more space than ought in such a climate as this to be given to the male prisoners.

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Hospitals and Asylums.

45. The total number of patients in the Georgetown Colonial Hospital, including the European Seamen's Ward, at the beginning of 1875 was 517. The total number admitted in the course of the year was 5,351, and the average daily number of in-patients was 518. The total number of deaths was 831. Of these 90 cases are said to have been taken to the hospital in a moribund condition, but deducting these the mortality was still at the rate of 124 in the thousand, which is higher than last year. I enclose the Surgeon General's Report on the hospital for 1875, and in reference to it I may state that Dr. Manget's representations have received careful attention.

46. The statistics of the Colonial Hospital at Berbice, show an increase in the number of admissions, which rose from 899 in 1874 to 1,108 in 1875, and the daily average of in-patients from 53 to 61. There were 172 deaths, being at the rate of 148 in the thousand. It is not stated how many (if any) were brought to the hospital in a moribund condition. I enclose the report of Dr. Hackett, the physician of this hospital. This hospital was enlarged and improved in 1875 by the addition of a large ward for European seamen, a new dispensary, and waiting rooms, which Dr. Hackett reports add greatly to the comfort of the institution. It is intended to hand this hospital over entirely for the purposes of the lunatic asylum, and to build a new hospital in the town of New Amsterdam. I regret to see that Dr. Hackett finds it necessary to repeat his complaint against the corporation of New Amsterdam for the state of that town.

47. The lunatic asylum was placed in 1875 under the charge of a medical officer, selected in England by your Lordship, Dr. Robert Grieve. No appointment could possibly have proved a greater blessing to the unhappy patients in the asylum, or given more satisfaction to the Government, and to many of the public who take a great interest in the asylum. Dr. Grieve has relaxed much of the restraint which was formerly thought necessary, he has substituted open wards for close separate sleeping apartments,

introduced industrial employments, varied with music and recreation, and changed the entire aspect of the asylum. The patients evidently appreciate the vast change, and are for the most part orderly and well-behaved. Dr. Grieve has been constituted by law medical superintendent of the asylum with the fullest powers of administration, and hitherto the result has been such as to justify in the highest degree the confidence reposed in him. Dr. Grieve proposes to make a general report on the asylum at the end of the present year.

48. The buildings devoted to the purposes of the asylum were a part of the old Fort Canje Barracks, the rest of the barracks being turned into a general hospital for the county of Berbice, and an almshouse. The buildings appropriated to the lunatic asylum have long been insufficient for the number of patients, and two new wards were built in 1874 and 1875. Further enlargements were contemplated, but these have been set aside in favour of a more comprehensive plan for building a new hospital and providing elsewhere for the paupers, and adding the hospital and almshouse to the asylum. This will give ample accommodation, but it is not to be expected that a set of buildings originally designed for military barracks will be as well suited to the purposes of an asylum as new buildings would be, if constructed expressly for the purposes of an asylum, and adapted to meet all modern requirements. Notwithstanding this the patients will be in all respects well provided for.

Charitable Institutions.

49. The following charitable institutions are enumerated under this head in the Blue Book :—

1. General Hospital, Demerara.
2. Seamen's Ward in Hospital at Massaruni.
3. General Hospital, Berbice.
4. General Lunatic Asylum.
5. Leper Asylum at Mahaica.
6. Leper Asylum at Kaow Island.
7. Orphan Asylum and School of Industry.
8. The Saffron School.

50. All of these institutions are supported out of the general revenues except the last, which is a charity founded and endowed under the will of the late M. de Saffon, for the education and support of 10 poor children nominated by the judges of the Supreme Court, who are also under the will the trustees of the charity.

51. The Leper Asylums at Mahaica and Kaow Island afford support and treatment free of all charge to 245 poor lepers. The mode of admission to the asylums is regulated by the Ordinance 18 of 1870, and may be either on the order of the governor, on its being certified to him by a medical practitioner that a person is a leper, and by any two justices of the peace, that such person is a fit subject for gratuitous relief; or by order of a stipendiary

magistrate in the case of a leper being convicted of begging or collecting arms or exposing his leprosy in the public streets. In such last-named case the order is not to be issued, and after being issued may at any time be cancelled, if the leper or any person on his behalf will give security in the sum of 20*l.* that the leper shall be properly treated in private. As a matter of practice, no case has occurred within my own knowledge of a leper being sent to the asylum by a stipendiary magistrate, but scarcely a week ever passes without my being asked for an order of admission for one or more lepers, which is, of course, always granted. Under the rules lately made for the Leper Asylum, power is reserved to the Special Commissioner to authorise the superintendent of any asylum to grant leave to any inmate to quit the asylum for a time; but in order to secure the proper care of the leper it is provided that some friend or relative shall undertake the care of the leper while he is away from the asylum.

52. The principal literary institution in the Colony is the Royal Agricultural and Commercial Society of British Guiana, which was founded in 1844, and has since been incorporated by ordinance. There is a large library and reading room on the society's premises, and also a public museum, for the maintenance of which latter an annual grant of 2,000 dollars is made to the society.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. R. LONGDEN,

The Right Hon. the Earl of Carnarvon.

Governor.

&c. &c. &c.

Colonial Hospital, Berbice,
SIR, 7th July 1876.

I HAVE the honour to submit, for the information of his Excellency the Governor, my report on the general hospital and asylum of this county for the year 1875.

The statistical return required for the Blue Book has already been forwarded to you.

There have been admitted, as in-door patients during the year, 836 males, 272 females.

There have been prescriptions for out-door patients during the same period 2,274.

The mortality for the year has been 129 males and 43 females.

The absolutely hopeless condition in which a large number of cases are sent for admission may be imagined when no less than 50 of the deaths occurred within a few hours after their admission.

In fact, they appear to have been sent merely to save the burial fees, which their relatives would be liable for if the death occurred out of the hospital.

The majority of our cases come from the town of New Amsterdam, and the villages in the vicinity of the town.

In my last report I thought it right to mention the disgraceful and filthy state of the town, and I am sorry to say that it has not improved in the slightest degree since.

BRITISH
GUIANA.

Dysentery and diarrhoea are certainly to a great extent preventible diseases, and have their origin in the want of sanitary regulations.

The town is capable of being kept perfectly clean ; the drainage, if attended to, would be good.

Overcrowding in the tenements rented to the lower classes might in a great measure be prevented, and most certainly the proprietors of houses to let should be obliged to furnish them with vats for keeping drinking water in for the use of the tenants, as well as properly constructed latrines.

Until attention is paid to the general hygiene of the town, sickness and a very high mortality must certainly prevail.

The addition to the hospital of a large ward for seamen, captains of vessels, and respectable but poor people was completed and taken over for use about the middle of the year.

It has been a source of great comfort to a great many.

The dispensary, surgery, and waiting rooms add greatly to the comfort of this institution.

Many drugs that were spoiled by the heat of the former dispensary are now kept without undergoing rapid deterioration.

The body of the hospital is in good repair, and the roof ventilators have been erected.

The latrines are still in close approximation to the building, and during the prevalence of a land wind the smell of the night soil is very depressing.

When the number of patients that the house is calculated to hold are received, diarrhoea and dysentery are sure to appear, notwithstanding that the greatest care is taken to remove the excreta, and to use charcoal and other disinfectants.

This state of things cannot be avoided as long as the building is used as a hospital.

Its structural defects are such as to render perfect ventilation impossible.

It was originally an old barrack, quite good enough for day rooms and dormitories for men in good health, but quite unfit for its present use, and all the patching and tinkering that it can be subjected to now will never make it a desirable building to be used for the reception and treatment of the sick.

The additions made to the almhouses have rendered them very comfortable, and quite large enough for the reception of all poor and infirm that have applied for admission.

The subsoil drainage of all the grounds, including those belonging to the hospital, almshouse, and general lunatic asylum is excellent ; even in the heavy wet weather the water is removed quickly and thoroughly.

A few months have as yet elapsed since the asylum has been under the charge of Dr. Grieve ; the happy changes that have taken place therein are quite known to your Excellency, and therefore require no remark from me.

There is no reason for supposing that lunacy will decrease in this Colony for the future.

The admissions of late have increased; more accommodation is urgently required even for those already in the asylum.

The giving up of all the buildings and grounds now used for the hospital to the lunatic asylum, and removing the hospital to the site purchased for it by the Government two* years ago, I believe, is an idea originating with his Excellency, and one I hope his Excellency will carry out, for I believe that it cannot fail to be productive of the greatest good to both institutions.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JAS. S. HACKETT, M.D.,

Hon. W. A. G. Young, Visiting Physician.
Government Secretary.

BRITISH
GUYANA.

SIR,

Demerara, Georgetown, March 31, 1876.

THE report of the Resident Surgeon, addressed to the directors last month, a copy of which was sent to his Excellency the Governor, is so ample and elaborate, that it leaves nothing for me to add for his Excellency's consideration. The statements therein contained give a detailed account of the different transactions which took place in the hospital during the year 1875. Anything I could advance would only be a reiteration of the facts enumerated in that exhaustive report.

I have, however, to call his Excellency's special attention to what is alluded to in Dr. Pollard's report with regard to sending to the hospital, from the ships arriving from the East Indies, immigrants who ought not to be admitted in this institution. Mothers not sick accompanying their children, and healthy children sent with their mothers, are continually forwarded to the hospital. As many as 40 are sent to the hospital from the Immigration Dépôt, all in one day; many scarcely ailing, who would soon recover in the dépôt or on the estates to which they are allotted. These people are very noisy and dirty, and all arriving in a single day, overcrowd the wards already well filled, are very troublesome, and give great annoyance to the other patients. Some are very violent, and try to get away to their friends. I am sure that many of these cases could be kept at the dépôt without any detriment to themselves. Dr. Pollard alludes also to the hospital being made use of as a casual ward of a workhouse. It is so to a very great extent. Half-starved people are taken up by the police, lying in the thoroughfares, and brought to the hospital, when they ought to be sent to the almshouse. I am quite aware of the difficulty attached to this subject, and would suggest that such cases should be still brought to the hospital, but the authorities of this institution should have the power to transfer them to the almshouse without having to wait for admission from the Poor Law Commissioners.

We are much in want of a place to receive the parties who are admitted with certificates of lunacy. They are now placed in the

* Fourteen years ago. Ordinance No. 5, 1862. J. R. L.

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general wards, and when violent and noisy disturb the other patients, preventing them from resting, sometimes for several nights. We could use the old cells for these cases, but we will require at least two extra nurses to attend to them. This will incur an additional expense of \$40 per month. The vote for the nurses and under officers is scarcely enough for our present number of patients.

I would beg his Excellency to place an item on the estimate for a drying apparatus. In rainy weather we are at a loss how to supply clothes to the patients for want of the means of drying the clothes. This item has been placed on the list of the objects required, in the hands of the Colonial Civil Engineer. A drying room, such as used in all the large institutions in Europe, would be not only of great service, but would save a good deal in the wear and tear of the clothes.

The calculations for the expenses of the hospitals, excepting salaries and repairs and additions to buildings, was framed on a daily average of 450 inmates. The number in 1875 was 506; still I am happy to say that has not been exceeded. The vote of the Combined Court was \$66,600; the expenditure has been \$70,943 39, being an excess of \$4,343 39. From this must be deducted \$1,931 68, amount arising from different sources, the principal one being payments made by the paying patients. This sum was paid into the Receiver-General's office, thus leaving a deficit of \$2,411 71. If we are credited, as I think we ought to be, with the amounts due by the estates for immigrants sent to the hospital, amounting to \$3,858 50, it will be seen that we are on the right side. The financial position is, therefore, all that could be desired, taking into consideration the increased number of admissions, and the nature of the diseases. Every economy has been practised; this is, I think, well proved when it is stated that each patient, including all salaries, cost only 46½ cents per day.

I beg to call his Excellency's attention to the increase in the admissions of free Coolies. In 1874 there were 533; in 1875, 832. Many of these immigrants are in a very poor state of health when they present themselves for admission, and generally state that they are refused admission in the Estate's Hospital, and told to go to the Queen's Hospital in Georgetown. Whether this be true or not I cannot say, but I would respectfully advance the opinion that the non-reindenturing plan will drive many of these free men to the hospitals.

I append a copy of the Resident Surgeon's report, which gives a retrospective statement for 1875.

I have, &c.

(Signed) Et. A. MANGET,

Hon. W. A. G. Young, Colonial Surgeon-General.
Government Secretary.

RETROSPECT of the year 1875.

BRITISH
GUIANA.*Colonial Department.*

Remaining on the 1st January 1875	-	-	504
Admitted	-	-	4,958
			<hr/>
			5,462
Discharged	-	-	4,186
			<hr/>
			1,276
Died	-	-	816
			<hr/>
Remaining on the 1st January 1876	-	-	460

The daily average was largest in the month of May, 567·41 ; smallest in October, 436·60 ; the deaths in these months being 77 and 68 respectively. The largest mortality occurred in December, 82 ; the smallest in November, 48 ; the daily average of patients in these months being 446 and 441 respectively. The hospital contained the largest number of Colonial patients on the 12th January, 598. The immigrant ship, the "Syria," had arrived the day before, and over 50 cases, principally of ophthalmia, had been sent up from her, between 3.30 and 8 p.m. Nineteen sailors in the Seamen's Hospital on the 12th January brought the total number of in-patients in the hospital up to 617, a number unparalleled, I believe, in the annals of the hospital. At one period of the 24 hours, before some people had been discharged and the books made up, there were at least 620 patients in together. The smallest number of Colonial patients were here on the 31st October and the 2nd November, 420 on both days. The daily average number of in-patients (Colonial) was 506.

Of the 4,958 admissions, 1,667 were those of Guianese ; 1,435 those of Coolies and Chinese, of whom 832 were free, 227 indentured, 330 unallotted, while about 46 no particulars could be obtained ; 921 those of Barbadians ; 381 those of Portuguese.

3,257 people were admitted in the male wards : the largest number in one month 311, in December ; the smallest in June, 230. The daily average number of patients in the male wards was largest in March, 405 ; smallest in October, 324. The greatest mortality in the male wards took place in March, 59 ; the smallest in November, 30.

1,701 people were admitted into the female wards ; the largest number in one month in January, 216 ; the smallest in July and October, 105 in each month. The daily average number of patients was largest in May, 167 ; smallest in December, 105. The mortality was highest in December, 30 ; lowest in July, 16. The monthly average number of deaths was, for the male wards, 47 ; for the female wards, 20.

The per-cent-age of deaths on the daily average number of patients was, for the male wards, highest in October, 15·43 ;

lowest in November, 9° 14. For the female wards, it was highest in December, 28° 57; lowest in March, 10° 76. I have prepared and appended these tables. The first shows the number of admissions and of deaths, the daily average number of patients, the per-cent-age of deaths on the daily average number of patients in each month of the year in the male and female wards.

On Table II., the people who were admitted, and who died, are classified according to the countries in which they were born. It also shows whether they belong to Georgetown or the rural districts. I firmly believe, however, that more people should be represented as having come from the country. Many people are taken ill in the country, come to town, and after spending some time with their friends, and perhaps obtaining medical advice, find their way to the hospital. Among the free and indentured immigrants are some who were admitted as patients from town, but who had been taken ill in the country and had then come here, after first going to the Immigration Depôt, or remaining some time elsewhere in Georgetown.

Of the Coolies and Chinese who died, 104 were free, 59 were indentured, 35 unallotted; about 36 no particulars could be obtained.

Before leaving the subject of the death rate, and without attempting to enumerate the cases of each disease treated here—as will shortly be done for the Blue Book returns—I trust I shall not be out of order if I refer to the prevalence of phthisis among men of different countries in this Colony. Out of 151 cases which proved fatal in this hospital during 1875, 59 were those of Guianese, 48 those of West Indians, 41 those of Barbadians, 28 those of Coolies, 7 those of Chinese, 3 those of Portuguese.

Taking the number of natives of British Guiana at 114,000, of West Indians at 13,000, of Coolies at 43,000, of Chinese at 6,000, of Portuguese at 8,000, the deaths from this disease were at the rate per 10,000 of 5° 17 for natives of British Guiana, 36° 92 for West Indians, 6° 51 for Coolies, 11° 66 for Chinese, 3° 75 for Portuguese.

As far, therefore, as the records of this hospital show, phthisis made more havoc among the West Indians, Chinese, and Coolies last year than it did among the natives of British Guiana. Of the Coolies who died 23 were free, 1 was unallotted, 2 were indentured, 2 were unknown; 2 of the Chinese were free, 1 was indentured, 4 were unknown. Perhaps the fact of a man being indentured has not a very important bearing on this question, as the estates are not likely to receive or to re-indenture very weakly people. Of the free immigrants who thus died, 3 came to the Colony in 1870, 3 in 1869, 1 in 1865, 2 in 1864, 4 in 1862, 2 in 1861, 1 in 1860, 1 in 1859, 1 in 1856, 3 in 1857, 1 in 1853, 1 in 1852, 2 in 1847.

Table III. shows the numbers admitted and treated as outpatients, the number of deaths, and the per-cent-age of deaths to the numbers admitted during several years. The greater part of it appeared in my report for May 1875, a portion of this part having been compiled by a gentleman who visited the hospital to

collect data for a report on consumption which has recently been published.

Table IV. is supplementary of Table I. It shows the number admitted, the number of deaths, the per-cent-age of deaths to the number admitted in each month. In the male wards the number of admissions is not by any means so great in proportion to the daily average number of patients as it is in the female wards. This is owing to the greater prevalence of ulcer, and other cases among the men, which remain a long time in the hospital.

Operations performed.—282 minor, 71 capital, 16 ophthalmia, and 6 obstetric; total, 375.

Lunatics.—Admitted: 36 males, 23 females; total, 59. Of these 6 males died, 42 (26 females and 16 males) were sent to Berbice, 11 were discharged.

Out-Patients.—15,924 were treated. This gives a daily average number of 43.62 for the whole year; but if 52 Sundays be eliminated—out-patients are not supposed to be taken on Sundays, and very few come—then the daily average number will be 50.87. The numbers admitted exhibit an increase of 69 over those of last year; the out-patients an increase of 14.86. I believe this is chiefly due to an increase of poverty.* I believe that not many out-patients, and very few in-patients, get relief here who could afford to pay a private practitioner for it, and, at the same time, buy the food and medicines which he would order. I mean at the time when relief is afforded, for, undoubtedly, if the practice of making some provision for the future were more common than it is in British Guiana, many more people could pay a doctor than are now able to do so. As matters stand, however, it is quite certain that people die in Georgetown and elsewhere without seeing a medical man, or after getting medicine as out-patients of this hospital.

The number of immigrants—unallotted immigrants from the ships are not now referred to—who came to the hospital, some recommended by the medical gentleman who visited the dépôt, others by other gentlemen of the Immigration Department, and who stated that they were unable to get relief elsewhere, showed an increase.

It is much to be regretted that so many unallotted Coolies are sent here from the ships, some only accompanying sick relations, others afflicted with very trifling ailments. They are very filthy in their habits, and make the hospital exceedingly dirty. They are annoyed at being separated from their friends. The women, who are the most difficult to manage, and the children make a great noise. It is of no use to threaten them that they will be discharged if they misbehave, for they clamour to be sent to the estates, on which they think their friends are enjoying great happiness, and

* One effect of the practice of diseased and poverty-stricken people marrying, or, as is more usual, living in concubinage, without the slightest consideration for the prospects of the unfortunate beings they thus bring into existence, is to increase the number of sickly parents, some of them not out of their teens, and puny, ill-fed children, who come to this institution.

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GUIANA.

from going to which they fancy we are very unfairly keeping them.

It is also to be regretted that the hospital should have to be used as is the casual ward of a workhouse, but whenever a fatigued and starving and houseless pauper is found he is always brought here. Many people are said to sleep usually under houses and bridges, and one man who was here twice said he generally slept in a tree. When I last saw him he wanted to be admitted, because he said the heavy rains made the tree uninhabitable.

Seaman's Hospital.

Remaining 1st January 1875	-	-	-	-	13
Admitted	-	-	-	-	393
					406
Discharged	-	-	-	-	381
					25
Died	-	-	-	-	5
Remaining 1st January 1876	-	-	-	-	20

The largest daily average was in April, 21; the smallest in September, 6. The daily average number for the year was 12.

TABLE I.

Months.	Male Wards.				Female Wards.			
	Admitted.	Daily average Number of Patients.	Deaths.	Per-cent of Deaths on daily average Number of Patients.	Admitted.	Daily average Number of Patients.	Deaths.	Per-cent of Deaths on daily average Number of Patients.
January -	302	403	49	12·15	216	160	21	13·12
February -	245	375	55	14·66	153	165	23	13·93
March -	309	405	59	14·56	140	130	14	10·76
April -	259	404	47	11·62	149	136	18	13·23
May -	268	400	54	13·50	149	167	23	13·77
June -	230	400	42	10·50	129	139	23	16·54
July -	274	378	42	11·11	105	117	16	13·67
August -	293	376	56	14·89	129	112	17	15·17
September -	262	348	38	10·91	148	128	21	16·40
October -	248	324	50	15·48	105	112	18	16·07
November -	256	328	30	9·14	134	113	18	15·92
December -	311	340	52	15·29	144	105	30	28·57
Total -	3,257	373	574	12	1,701	132	242	15·00

The daily average number of in-patients was 5·06.

TABLE II.

	Patients admitted.			Deaths.		
	From Town.	From the Country.	Total.	From Town.	From the Country.	Total.
Guianese - -	985	682	1,667	175	118	293
Coolies and Chinese - -	485	626	1,111	64	130	194
Unallotted - -	330	—	1,435	35	—	229
Barbadians - -	627	294	921	115	52	167
Portuguese - -	188	193	381	25	23	48
Africans - -	49	93	136	12	19	31
West Indians - -	111	45	156	19	6	25
Natives of Great Britain and Ireland - -	34	41	75	5	2	7
Frenchmen - -	22	20	42	3	—	3
French Arabs - -	9	17	26	—	—	—
Natives of other countries	48	24	72	5	6	11
Unknown - -	47	—	47	1	1	2
Total - -	2,929	2,029	4,958	459	357	816

TABLE III.

Year.	In-Patients.			Out-Patients.
	Admitted.	Died.	Per-cent-age of Deaths to Numbers admitted.	—
1849	4,586	439	9.57	I am unable to find any complete records before 1862.
1854	2,086	309	14.81	
1859	3,150	521	16.53	2,943 for the year 1862.
1864	2,912	436	14.97	3,230.
1869	3,765	538	14.15	8,570.
1874	4,889	664	13.58	14,438.
1875	4,958	816	16.45	15,924.

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GUIANA.

TABLE IV.

Months.	Male Wards.			Female Wards.		
	Ad-mitted.	Died.	Per-centa-ge of Deaths to Numbers admitted.	Ad-mitted.	Died.	Per-centa-ge of Deaths to Numbers admitted.
January -	302	49	16.22	216	21	9.72
February -	245	55	22.44	153	23	15.03
March -	309	59	19.09	140	14	10.00
April -	259	47	18.14	149	18	12.08
May -	268	54	20.14	149	23	15.43
June -	230	42	18.26	129	23	17.82
July -	274	42	15.32	105	16	15.23
August -	293	56	19.11	129	17	13.17
September -	262	38	14.50	148	21	14.18
October -	248	50	21.61	105	18	17.14
November -	256	30	11.71	134	18	13.43
December -	311	52	15.40	144	30	20.83
Total -	3,257	574	17.60	1,701	242	14.00

MONTSERRAT.

MONTSERRAT.

No. 3.

SIR,

Montserrat, November 30th, 1876.

I HAVE the honour to forward to his Excellency Governor Berkeley, the Blue Book of this Presidency for 1875, accompanied by my report.

I have, &c.

(Signed) NEALE PORTER,

To his honour the Colonial Secretary President.
of the Leeward Islands.

Finance.

	—	Revenue.	Expenditure.
		£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1873	-	4,941 12 0	4,704 3 11
1874	-	4,647 15 9	5,038 7 6
1875	-	5,077 0 0	5,265 19 1

Imperial Post Office receipts and remittances deducted.

The expenditure of 1875 exceeded the revenue by 188*l.* 19*s.* 1*d.*

I had anticipated a surplus instead of a deficiency, but circumstances, the particulars of which it is not necessary here to explain, caused an unusually large expenditure on the Poor House and Hospital, nor had sufficient provision been made for the cost of the maintenance of several lunatics and convicts sent from this Presidency to Antigua.

The revenue of 1875 rose above the estimate, owing principally **MONTSERRAT.** to increase of receipts from import and export duties.

Trade.

	—	Imports.			Exports.			
		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	
1873	-	-	20,700	6	10	36,783	15	0
1874	-	-	23,937	17	0	33,079	5	0
1875	-	-	26,678	2	0	33,544	15	0

The commerce of the year, presented no new feature.

The frequent arrival of small sloops bringing sheep pen manure from the islands of St. Bartholomew and St. Martin, a trade which came into very active operation in 1874, continued through 1875.

Agriculture.

In my last report I gave, with some fulness, a description of the character, condition, and general aspect of the agriculture of this island, and referred to the advantage it possesses in having an established second staple export in the products of the lime cultivation prosecuted by an English joint stock company.

The year 1875, owing to very favourable weather, as well as to the enterprise and, speaking generally, the patient and persistent industry of the whole agricultural body, showed in the quantity of sugar exported an extremely satisfactory result. It is to be regretted that the prices obtained in the home market were barely remunerative. The crop was, I believe, the largest known in the history of this little island, and I think it well to give here the quantity exported.

Hogsheads.	Tierces.	Barrels.
13	-	3,287

5 barrels = 1 tierce. 3 tierces = 2 hogsheads.

Molasses, 490 puncheons.

Within the last year or two an energetic planter has commenced on a considerable scale, at the southern end of the island, the cultivation, for exportation, of pineapples.

The enterprise is as yet an experiment, and will I trust result successfully.

Population.

The population of this island is a little over 9,000. The Registrar's returns show a steady and sustained excess of births over deaths.

	—	Births.		Deaths.	
		1872	1873	1874	1875
	-	-	397	265	
	-	-	396	239	
	-	-	435	143	
	-	-	442	225	

The marriage returns are far from satisfactory.

MONTSERRAT.

Education.

The Leeward Islands Act, No. 2 of 1874, "An Act to regulate the grant of aid to elementary schools," came into operation in 1875.

The inspector of schools visits the several islands constituting now one Colony, and the amount of the grant in aid to each school is determined by the results of his examination. In 1875 in every case in which a grant was given it was as exceptional aid. To some schools it was impossible to give assistance even under this head. I have no doubt, however, that the inspector's examination in 1876 will show an improvement at once satisfactory and encouraging.

General Remarks.

In the matter of education, as with regard to other civilizing influences, the comparative poverty of these communities, judged by the European standard, must be borne in mind. Better teachers, better police, better prisons, the more improved care and more skilful treatment of lunatics, the constant and abundant supply of water to towns, Public Health Acts, &c., mean and involve increased expenditure and additional taxation, or the arrest of the reduction of existing imposts.

Colonies of considerable magnitude, with resources of various kinds, and whose prosperity can hardly be prostrated by an earthquake or a hurricane, or by one or two years of drought, may venture to raise money by public loans, but small tropical settlements without manufactures, mines, or forests, depending entirely on an annual crop of sugar cane, will act prudently in not getting into debt, and progress in the matters referred to, desirable as it undoubtedly is, must, without aid from the Imperial exchequer, to be safe and sure, be cautious and gradual.

There has been some such progress in Montserrat.

Within the last three or four years considerable sums have been expended (partly from the cash reserve) in macadamising and draining public roads, in the purchase and substantial enclosure of a public cemetery; a Public Health Act has been passed and brought into operation; lunatics, at a much higher cost of maintenance, are now sent to the Antigua Asylum; a more expensive police force, under Federal arrangements, has since January 1875 been maintained.

The finances of the Presidency are in a satisfactory state.

(Signed) NEALE PORTER,
President.

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

CAPE OF
GOOD HOPE.

No. 4.

Governor SIR HENRY BARKLY, G.C.M.G., K.C.B., to The EARL OF CARNARVON.

Government House, Cape Town,

MY LORD,

September 20, 1876.

THE Blue Book of the Cape Colony for 1875, which I have now the honour to forward, has reached my hands at so much later a period than usual that many of the returns which it contains have lost somewhat of their freshness and interest, and I shall consequently endeavour to compress my remarks upon them as far as possible.

Revenue and Expenditure.

The total ordinary revenue of the year amounted to 1,602,918*l.* against 1,518,017*l.* in 1874, showing an increase of 84,901*l.* This was due to a small increase of receipts under nearly every head, the only exception of the slightest consequence being 2,205*l.* under that of "house duty," some time since abolished, and 124,828*l.* under that of "refunds," which had been in the previous year swollen by the large amounts transferred to general revenue from the police superannuation and sinking funds.

As a pure matter of account this happens to have been more than compensated in 1875 by a further transfer from sinking fund to general revenue of the accumulations under the Land Sales Act of 1870, which figure under that head among the increases for 149,448*l.*

As regards the expenditure it is not easy to arrive at correct conclusions, for that, both of an ordinary and extraordinary nature, is mixed up in the "comparative statement" in the Blue Book, which is drawn up in the accustomed form, the new Audit Act not having come into force till the 1st January 1876.

According to the figures given, the gross disbursements of 1875 amounted to 2,272,275*l.* and the net increase over those of 1874 was no less than 1,072,304*l.*; but among the latter are included an excess of 890,843*l.* for railway construction, of 19,774*l.* for telegraphs, and of 64,214*l.* for loans repaid, deducting which items the disbursements would stand at 1,297,444*l.* whilst the increase upon 1874 would be reduced to under 100,000*l.*

This, however, must not be taken as by any means a complete analysis of the disbursements of either year, for if all outlay on public works had been met by loans, the combined expenditure chargeable under the ordinary headings of "establishments and exclusive of establishments" would be found to fall considerably short of 1,000,000*l.* per annum, thus not exceeding two thirds of the revenue.

CAPE OF
GOOD HOPE.*Public Debt.*

Notwithstanding heavy advances for the purchase and construction of railways, amounting up to the end of 1875 to close upon 2,000,000*l.* sterling, the Cape Government continued under these circumstances tolerably independent of the money market, and was enabled to borrow at convenient opportunities only, and on the most favourable terms, viz., 4*½* per cent.

It raised, in the course of 1875, 300,000*l.* on account of construction, and nearly 250,000*l.* for completing the purchase of the Wellington line in the west, and that of the Port Elizabeth and Uitenhage line in the east, but the augmentation of its debt was only 391,000*l.*, old loans to the extent of about 150,000*l.* having been paid off.

On the 31st December 1875 the debt stood at 2,425,358*l.*, to which must be added *pro forma* 364,850*l.* for loans guaranteed by the Colony on account of harbour works in Table Bay and elsewhere, which are, however, reproductive, and entail no real charge.

Public Works.

Considerable progress was made during the year in carrying out the railway scheme of 1873, the Wellington line in the west having been opened for traffic as far as the Ceres Road Station, 84 miles, the Midland fairly started, the Eastern pushed forward to the 65th mile, and 57*½* of the Kaffrarian, between East London, King William's Town, and Queen's Town nearly finished. In the first two cases the cost per mile is not stated in the reports laid before Parliament, but the Eastern is calculated by the chief resident engineer to have cost (inclusive of rolling stock) 6,179*l.* 4*s.* 5*d.* per mile, and the Kaffrarian 6,482*l.*, which cannot but be considered most satisfactory.

The electric telegraph was extended in various directions, reaching the Orange Free State and Griqualand West before the close of the year, though not in working order for a month later.

The harbour works at Port Alfred and also East London were vigorously prosecuted, and the graving dock in Table Bay carried on as rapidly as the diminishing supply of convict labour admitted.

Imports and Exports.

Trade continued, on the whole, in a highly satisfactory state up to the end of 1875.

The value of imports advanced from 5,558,215*l.* in 1874 to 5,731,319*l.*, the entries for consumption showing an even larger increase, amounting to 283,000*l.*

The value of exports declared, however, showed a slight falling off, having been, in 1874, 4,138,838*l.*, and, in 1875, 4,088,125*l.*, or a decrease of 50,713*l.*

This is readily accounted for, inclement weather having told so severely upon the flocks in many districts that the wool export was less by 5 per cent. than in the previous year.

It is necessary, as usual, in order to obtain a correct idea of the commercial statistics of the year, to add the value of diamonds exported.

CAPE OF
GOOD HOPE.

This was estimated in the annual report of the Cape Town Chamber of Commerce at 1,500,000*l.*, and in that of the Port Elizabeth Chamber at 2,000,000*l.* As the Administrator of Griqualand West stated in his speech on opening the Legislature that precious stones reckoned at 1,400,000*l.* were transmitted through the provincial post office alone, the mean between the two estimates may probably be assumed as nearly the truth, and this would prove that the total exports of the year were fully equivalent to the imports.

The value of gold sent from the Leydenburg diggings in the Transvaal has been roughly set down at 300,000*l.* per annum, but only a small proportion of this finds its way to this Colony, the item figuring in the enumeration of exports at 42,309*l.*

A considerable exportation of specie took place during the year, the balance of shipments showing upwards of 150,000*l.* in sovereigns sent away from the Colony. The returns of shipping both inwards and outwards show a very large increase over those of the previous year. It is a noteworthy fact that the number and tonnage of vessels employed in the Cape trade, which diminished greatly after the opening of the Suez Canal, is now 50 per cent. larger than it was when that event took place, having, in fact, more than doubled since 1870.

The total inwards, including that employed coastwise, now nearly approaches a million tons.

Population, Education, Crime, &c.

The returns of the census taken on the 7th March 1875, now substituted for those of the previous census of 1865, furnish interesting particulars as to numbers, distribution, ages, and education of the people.

Including Fingoland, Griqualand East, and adjacent territories, recently annexed by an order of Her Majesty in Council, of the population of which an estimate is appended, the total population under the Cape Government now exceeds a million persons; that of the Colony proper, however, only amounts to 720,984. Of these it would appear that 236,783, or close upon a third, are of European origin.

In 1865 the numbers respectively were 566,158 and 187,439, the proportion being nearly the same. It is satisfactory to find that, in spite of the sudden exodus to the diamond fields, and of the steady efflux into the republics, the European element is stronger by 50,000 than it was 10 years ago. It will probably now increase still more rapidly as well from immigration as from natural causes. During last year the Government introduced 2,629 men, 230 women, and 300 children, principally in connexion with the public works in progress.

In respect to education, the number of whites who could neither read nor write was at the time of the previous census

**CAPE OF
GOOD HOPE.** 63,607, or about a third of the whole, and at that of 1875, 79,858, which gives precisely the same ratio. It must be borne in mind that the entire population is included, and that if those under seven years of age were deducted, the numbers in both cases ought to be reduced two thirds. I am bound to add that the statistics of the Education Department are far from warranting so large a reduction.

They show, however, progressive increase in the numbers of children of all classes receiving instruction.

The report on the postal service of the Colony points likewise to a rapid increase in intellectual activity.

Crime.

The extent of crime in the Colony is by no means large in proportion to its population.

From the gaol returns included in the Blue Book, as well as from the report on the Convict Department, of which I, as usual, enclose copy, it might at first sight be inferred that offences were slightly on the increase; a comparison, however, of the summaries of convictions before circuit courts will show that, whereas 406 persons were sentenced by these tribunals in 1874, the number in 1875 was only 343 (vide page 65), indicating that fewer serious crimes were committed, and that the rise in the number of convicts during the year, from 909 to 943, was owing to accidental causes.

The returns as to charitable institutions are carefully filled up. Extracts from the reports of the Board of Visitors to the old and new Somerset hospitals and to the western lunatic asylum on Robben Island, are appended and plans of the new eastern lunatic asylum at Graham's Town are also given. I forward also copy of a very interesting report from the superintendent of the native hospital at King William's Town, in which a valuable suggestion is thrown out as to the expediency of training, in this and other institutions, Kafir youths as surgeons, with a view to undermine the pernicious influence of witch doctors. I hope this suggestion will, ere long, be acted on by the Government.

Political Constitution, Legislation, &c.

There is little change to note in these respects. The Molteno ministry continued to retain office, and were successful in carrying through most of their measures, the most important of the number being an Act for improving the system of auditing the public accounts.

The discussions which took place towards the close of the ordinary session of the Legislature on the subject of a Confederation of the South African Colonies and States infused new energy, however, into political life throughout the Colony, and led to the holding of a special session later in the year, during which party feeling ran higher than it had done since the introduction of responsible government.

*Concluding Remarks.*CAPE OF
GOOD HOPE.

It may be doubted whether the Blue Book returns from any of Her Majesty's Colonies (due allowance being made for comparative size and resources) can exhibit more solid indications of progress and prosperity than those I have just cited.

I feel bound, however, to add that the prospects of the immediate future, judging from the experience of the few months which have subsequently elapsed, are not quite so brilliant. But this is owing to causes common to the whole commercial world, and for the most part extraneous to South Africa.

The recent fall in the price of wool, consequent on the stagnation of manufacturing industry in England and elsewhere, is said in the newspapers to have occasioned a loss of half a million sterling to the Port Elizabeth merchants, whilst the reduction of the value of diamonds by nearly one half, likewise attributable mainly to the fear of a European war, has shaken credit to its base at Kimberley, and caused a large proportion of the shares in its chief mines to change hands.

Other colonial products, too, have greatly declined in the home markets.

There seems, however, no reason to suppose that such decline will be more than temporary, and the only means, of course, while it lasts, of counteracting its effects in this as in other producing countries will be found in reducing the cost of production as far as possible, and when practicable improving the quality.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HENRY BARKLY,

The Right Hon. the Earl of Carnarvon, Governor.
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure No. 2.

MEMORANDUM upon the DISCIPLINE and MAINTENANCE of CONVICTS during the year 1875, submitted for the information of His Excellency the Governor.

The usual tabular statements, together with returns of expenditure during the year 1875, are herewith submitted.

On the 1st January there were 909 convicts undergoing sentence, distributed as follows:—

Western Stations.

Table Bay Harbour Works	-	-	255
Robben Island	-	-	34
Garcia's Pass	-	-	129
		—	418

Eastern Stations.

Kowie Harbour Works	-	-	193
East London Harbour Works	-	-	298
		—	491

Total	-	-	909
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CAPE OF
GOOD HOPE. 667 convicts, including 8 recaptured deserters, were received during the year.

The total number under sentence, 1,576, was reduced as follows:—

Deserted	-	-	-	-	-	27
Died	-	-	-	-	-	25
Discharged	-	-	-	-	-	550
Transferred	-	-	-	-	-	31

(22 to military authorities, 1 to naval authorities, 2 to Robben Island, 4 to Somerset Hospital, and 2 to lunatic asylum, Graham's Town), leaving on the last day of the year 943 convicts, distributed as follows:—

Table Bay Harbour Works	-	-	-	231
Robben Island	-	-	-	31
Garcia's Pass	-	-	-	151
Kowie Harbour Works	-	-	-	259
East London Harbour Works	-	-	-	270
Native Department, interpreter at Kafir Location, Cape Flats (since liberated on expiration of sentence)	-	-	-	1
Total	-	-	-	943

The general average for the year was as follows:—

Table Bay Harbour Works (including Robben Island and Native Department)	-	-	276
Garcia's Pass	-	-	150
Kowie Harbour Works	-	-	221
East London Harbour Works	-	-	276
Total	-	-	923

The crimes for which the men received were sentenced are as follows:—

Against the Person.—Murder, culpable homicide, rape, assault, &c.	-	-	-	89
Against Property with Violence.—House and store breaking, &c.	-	-	-	81
Against Property without Violence.—Theft, &c.	-	-	-	402
Malicious Offences against Property.—Arson	-	-	-	7
Miscellaneous Offences.—Forgery, perjury, incest, &c.	-	-	-	10
Breaches of the Maritime Laws.—Insubordination, &c.	-	-	-	62
Military Offences.—Desertion, insubordination, &c.	-	-	-	16
Total	-	-	-	667

The average period of sentences, exclusive of eight life sentences, passed by the superior courts upon men transferred to convict stations was $2\frac{9}{12}$ years. CAPE OF
GOOD HOPE.

Sentence of death was passed upon 6 men, 4 of whom have been executed.

The number of second convictions was 78, reiterated 12, against 102 and 29 during 1874.

Of the 667 received,—

244 were from supreme and circuit courts.

345 , resident magistrates ,

62 were sentenced for breaches of maritime laws.

16 , , , military laws

667

The races of the men are as follows :—

Europeans and of European descent	-	-	133
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Hottentots, &c.	-	-	-	351
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Border tribes	-	-	-	183
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667

Further details, statement of expenditure, &c., will be found in annexures Nos. 1 to 7. Nos. 8 and 9 show the advancement in religious and secular education of the convicts at the Table Bay Harbour Works Station.

The amount voted for the discipline and maintenance of 900 convicts during the year was 29,639*l.* 6*s.* 3*d.* The expenditure for 923 convicts has been 29,179*l.* 13*s.*, showing a saving of 459*l.* 13*s.* 3*d.*, notwithstanding an increase in the number of convicts of 23 over the anticipated strength. The average cost per man was 31*l.* 12*s.* 2*d.*, being 5*s.* 8*d.* under that for the previous year.

The average number of convicts employed upon road and harbour works was 850, and the average number of days upon which these men were worked was 270.

The aggregate amount of labour employed on the works by the number of men labouring for one day, requisite to affect the same result, was 229,500. At 2*s.* 6*d.* per man per diem the estimated value of the work performed was 28,685*l.*, against an expenditure of 29,179*l.* 13*s.* The value of the labour of convicts employed on the repairs of barracks, station duties, &c., is not included; it may be estimated at upwards of 1,000*l.*

The country stations, which previous to the abolition of the office of the superintendent-general of convicts were periodically inspected, have not been until last year visited by any superior officer.

To ensure uniformity in the working of the system, and for other reasons, it was considered necessary that these inspections should be renewed. The Under Colonial Secretary was appointed visiting officer of the stations at East London and Kowie. He

CAPE OF
GOOD HOPE. has expressed his satisfaction at witnessing the manner in which the affairs of both establishments are conducted. The superintending officers, he reports, are careful and energetic in the discharge of their duties, and the arrangements for carrying out the discipline of the convicts as nearly perfect as could possibly be expected, taking into consideration the somewhat temporary nature of the buildings and other unavoidable causes.

The inadequacy of the supply of clothing to sub-officers and convicts engaged his attention, and the Government, acting upon his suggestion, has placed on the estimates a small sum to meet these wants.

It has been for a long time a matter of much difficulty, owing to the low rates of wages, to obtain qualified men to fill the subordinate offices. This was represented by Captain Mills, and the Legislature will be asked to vote a trifling addition to the salaries of the men in question.

The practice of issuing rations twice only during the 24 hours was considered by the inspecting officer to be objectionable, but in consequence of the distance from the stations at which the gangs are working, any alteration has for the present been found impracticable, entailing, as it would, a large loss of labour.

To the chief clerk of the Convict Department was entrusted the duty of inspecting the station at Garcia's Pass. The unfavourable nature of his report is much to be regretted. The buildings erected by the Divisional Council of Riversdale, he states, are, without exception, the most unsuited for convict purposes of any he has seen during his long connexion with the Department. The interior space allotted to convicts is so circumscribed as to afford barely a passage for the inmates to pass between the foot of their sleeping places and the outer wall, while the ventilation was lamentably deficient. The drainage was simply a myth. The same may be said of the arrangements for personal ablution. The quarters allotted to the sub-officers are miserable in the extreme. The superintendent himself has a mere hovel—a sleeping room and an office some considerable distance from the station—while his family are compelled to reside in Riversdale, a distance of some 9 miles. The cells for solitary confinement possessed no means for the admission of light or ventilation.

Some 700 lbs. of blasting gunpowder, required for road purposes, were stored in a *thatched* building, 36 yards from the cook house, and 50 yards from a building occasionally used as a smithy. A more substantial building has since been erected.

The working parties were visited by the inspecting officer. The nearest was some $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles from the station. One party was engaged in cutting a bridle path about 4 miles distant. The want of means of transport prevented the inspecting officer from reaching this portion of the works.

Mr. Hawthorn, in accordance with general instructions, immediately set to work to remedy this state of affairs. He ordered the whitewashing of the wards, the enlargement of the means of

ventilation, repairs of flooring, construction of additional water troughs, &c., in the convict barracks, the frequent washing of the bedding, which was by no means in a creditable condition, and a supply of planks for the constables' sleeping places. The rations were found to be of good quality and well cooked. All these arrangements, it is reported, have been attended to, and it is hoped that, if decided to conclude the work by convict labour, the report of the next visiting officer will be of a more favourable nature.

CAPE OF
GOOD HOPE.

The station in connexion with the Table Bay Harbour Works, frequently inspected by the visiting magistrate and the chief clerk of the Convict Department, deserves the highest encomium. The buildings are roomy and well ventilated, and, under the superintendence of one of the most experienced officers in the Department, may be said to bear favourable comparison with many of those of a similar nature in Europe and elsewhere.

(Signed) J. C. MOLTENO,
Colonial Secretary's Office, Colonial Secretary.
26th April 1876.

No. 1.—RETURN showing the Number of PERSONS who underwent PUNISHMENT at the Age, and the Number of Times convicted, as also the Number

CLASS AND DESCRIPTION OF CRIME.	Number of Convicts at Stations on 31st December 1874.				Of whom were			Received during the Year 1875.				Of whom were				Total Number at Stations during the Year 1875.			
	Europeans and of European Descent.	Hottentots, Bushmen, Fingoes, and Free Blacks.	Natives of the Border Tribes.		Europeans and of European Descent.	Hottentots, Bushmen, Fingoes, and Free Blacks.	Natives of the Border Tribes.	Europeans and of European Descent.	Hottentots, Bushmen, Fingoes, and Free Blacks.	Natives of the Border Tribes.		Deserted.	Died.	Discharged.	Transferred.				
Against the Person:—																			
Murder	30	3	17	10	5	1	3	1	3	2	35	—	1	1	3	1			
Culpable homicide	53	4	39	10	22	2	18	2	75	2	75	—	1	1	8	8			
Assault, with intent to murder	—	—	—	—	2	2	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	1	—	—			
Rape, or assault with in- tent	29	3	20	6	12	1	7	4	41	—	—	—	1	1	7	7			
Unnatural offences or at- tempts	3	—	2	1	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	1	1	1	1			
Assault with intent to do grievous bodily harm	22	4	13	5	23	3	17	3	45	—	—	—	—	—	9	9			
Assault	21	4	13	4	25	7	12	6	46	—	—	—	—	—	29	1			
Causing poison to be taken	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—			
Against Property with Vi- olence:—																			
House, store, &c. breaking, with intent to steal	157	16	111	30	79	5	58	16	236	4	6	72	—	3	—	—			
Robbery	8	3	2	3	2	—	—	2	10	—	—	4	—	—	—	—			
Against Property without Violence:—																			
Cattle, horse, and sheep stealing, theft, or receiving stolen goods, know- ing them to have been stolen, or attempts at the above crimes	532	29	302	201	401	29	226	146	933	3	23	13	338	—	4	—			
Frauds	2	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—			
Malicious Offences against Property:—																			
Arson, or malicious injury to property	6	1	2	3	7	3	4	—	13	—	—	—	5	—	—	—			
Miscellaneous Crimes:—																			
*Rebellion	2	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—			
Forgery	4	1	3	2	—	1	1	1	6	—	—	—	—	—	2	—			
Perjury	2	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	5	—	—	—	—	—	1	—			
Contravention of Masters and Servants Act	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—			
Incest	3	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	4	—	—	—	—	—	2	—			
Bestiality	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—			
Escape from custody	1	—	—	—	2	2	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—			
Contravention of F.A. and M. Police Act	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	1	—			
Contravention of Forest and Herbage Protection Act	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—			
Offences against the mari- time laws	9	9	—	—	62	61	1	—	71	—	—	—	61	—	1	1			
Fraudulent insolvency	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	1	—			
Abduction	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—			
Contravention of Act for protection of bees	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—			
Military Crimes:—																			
Insubordination, &c.	18	18	—	—	15	15	—	—	33	—	—	1	1	1	22	—			
Desertion	1	1	—	—	1	1	—	—	2	—	—	1	—	—	—	—			
Totals	909	101	532	276	667	133	351	183	1,576	27	25	550	31	—	—	—			
					909				667†			633							

* Langalibalele and Son.

† Eight re-captured deserters.

several CONVICT STATIONS during the Year 1875, distinguishing them according to Race, deserted, died, discharged, transferred, rewarded, &c.

CAPE OF
GOOD HOPE. No. 2.—RETURN showing the manner in which the CONVICTS have been employed during the Year 1875.

Stations.	Road and Harbour Works.	Building and repairing Barracks.	Bar-rack Duty.	Sick.	Non-effective from Accident in Confinement, &c.	Total Average Number of Convicts.
Breakwater and Robben Island -	263	—	9	1	3	276
Garcia's Pass -	137	—	8	4	1	150
Kowie -	201	—	12	7	1	221
East London -	249	4	9	12	2	276
Totals -	850	4	38	24	7	923
			923			

No. 3.—RETURN showing the NUMBER of MITIGATIONS of SENTENCES granted during the Year 1875.

Stations.	No. of Mitigations.
Breakwater and Robben Island -	38
Garcia's Pass -	5
Kowie -	20
East London -	20
Total -	83

No. 4.—RETURN showing the NUMBER of OFFENDERS, OFFENCES committed, and PUNISHMENTS inflicted, during the Year 1875.

Stations.	Offenders.	Offences.	Punish-ments.	By whom inflicted.	
				Visiting Magistrates.	Super-intendents.
Breakwater and Robben Island -	164	209	209	10	199
Garcia's Pass -	50	104	104	8	96
Kowie -	216	277	277	22	255
East London -	169	441	449	25	424
Totals -	599	1,031	1,039	65	974
				1,039	

No. 5.—RETURN showing the NUMBER of CORPORAL PUNISHMENTS and NUMBER of LASHES inflicted during the Year 1875.

Stations.	Number of Punishments.	Number of Lashes.
Breakwater and Robben Island -	1	25
Garcia's Pass -	5	120
Kowie -	8	254
East London -	13	364
Totals -	27	768

No. 6.—RETURN showing the NUMBER of PRISONERS sentenced at the SUPREME, EASTERN Districts, and CIRCUIT COURTS during the Year 1875, together with the Number received at Convict Stations, their Races, &c.

CIRCUIT TOWNS.	DATES OF SITTING.	NUMBERS.	RACES.	Aggregate No. of Years Hard Labour awarded to Prisoners received at Stations.	Remarks explanatory of the difference between the Numbers sentenced and Received.	
					YEARS.	MONTHS.
1st and 2nd sittings.						
Cape Town	15th and 20th Jan.	11	6	4	13	
"	3rd and 4th May	10	9	8	16	
"	17th March	2	1	2	4	
Swellendam	20th March	1	1	1	3	
Riversdale	24th March	2	2	2	3	6
Mossel Bay	27th March	—	—	—	—	—
George	30th March	—	—	—	—	—
Outstaart	2nd April	1	1	1	2	
Prince Albert	7th April	1	1	1	2	
Beaufort West	10th April	4	—	—	—	—
Victoria West	15th and 16th April	8	—	—	—	—
Fransburg	20th April	6	—	—	—	—
Worcester	27th and 28th April	6	6	2	4	—
Clarendon	3rd May	—	—	1	—	6
Malmesbury	—	—	—	1	5	—
Graham's Town	15th January	2	2	2	3	6
"	10th May	5	5	4	1	9
King William's Town	15th and 16th March	12	11	2	1	20
Fort Beaufort	19th March	6	5	4	6	—
Bedford	22nd March	1	1	—	3	8
Oradock	25th March	—	—	—	1	4
Queen's Town	30th March	6	4	2	2	10
Alwa North	1st April	14	13	1	3	25
Burgersdorp	8th April	7	8	4	3	13
		8	—	—	2	6
					27	—
1st sitting.						
1st and 2nd sittings.						
1st sitting.						

CAPE OF
GOOD HOPE.

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

NO. 6.—Return showing the Number of Prisoners sentenced at the Supreme, Eastern Districts, and Circuit Courts, &c.—*continued*

Circuit Towns.	Dates of Sitting.	Numbers.	Races.	Aggregate No. of Years Hard Labour awarded to Prisoners received at Stations.	Remarks explanatory of the difference between the Numbers Sentenced and Received.	
					Years.	Months.
Colesberg	12th April	5	5	6	6	—
Richmond	16th April	7	—	—	—	—
Graaf-Reinet	26th April and 21st April	12	—	—	—	—
Somerset	26th April	7	6	5	27	—
Uitenhage	3rd May	6	1	1	18	—
Port Elizabeth	5th May	6	5	3	6	—
Cape Town	15th to 20th July	14	13	9	20	9
	8th and 9th Nov.	19	18	1	16	2
	14th September	2	2	2	4	—
	18th September	2	—	—	—	—
	23rd to 25th Sep.	15	14	2	10	2
	1st October	2	—	—	—	—
	5th October	6	1	—	—	—
	9th October	7	1	—	—	—
	14th October	7	1	—	—	—
	18th October	7	5	2	13	—
	22nd October	2	2	1	13	—
	25th October	1	1	—	—	—
	27th October	4	2	—	3	—
	30th October	—	—	—	—	—
	15th November	—	—	—	—	—
	Goudišorn	—	—	—	—	—
	George	—	—	—	—	—
	Mossel Bay	—	—	—	—	—
	Riversdale	—	—	—	—	—
	Swellendam	—	—	—	—	—
	Caledon	—	—	—	—	—
	Graham's Town	—	—	—	—	—
	King William's Town	6	5	1	2	2
	10th November	—	—	4	2	2
3rd and 4th sittings	3rd and 4th Sept.	9	8	1	10	10
2nd sittings	8th September	12	11	—	45	8
	King William's Town	—	—	—	17	3
	Fort Beaufort	—	—	—	—	—

No. 6.—Return showing the Number of Prisoners sentenced at the Supreme, Eastern Districts, and Circuit Courts, &c.—*continued.*

CIRCUIT TOWNS.	Dates of Sitting.	Numbers.	RACES.	Aggregate No. of Years Hard Labour awarded to Prisoners received at Stations.	Remarks explanatory of the difference between the Numbers Sentenced and Received.	
					Received.	Months.
2nd sittings	Bedford -	18th September	2	1	1	9
	Gratlock -	16th September	2	1	1	—
	Queen's Town -	20th September	17	2	13	2 short sentences.
	Alwall North -	25th September	1	—	50	—
	Burghersdorp -	28th September	4	3	3	1 short sentence.
	Colesberg -	4th October	1	—	14	1 do. do.
	Richmond -	8th October	4	—	—	Detained at Beaufort West.
	Grasffl. Benet -	12th October	8	—	—	Do. do.
	Somerset -	18th October	6	3	26	—
	Uitenhage -	27th October	16	1	5	2 short sentences.
	Port Elizabeth -	29th October	4	2	8	And 1 for life.
	Total -	348	244	27	131	86
					244	17

SUMMARIES.

Sentenced during 1875	-	-	-	348
Received during 1875	-	-	-	244
Europeans, &c.	-	-	-	27
Hottentots, &c.	-	-	-	131
Border tribes -	-	-	-	86

Aggregate number of years' sentences passed upon the prisoners received at convict stations (not including *life* sentences) was 679 years and 6 months.

Average period of sentence 2 years and 9 months.

Received at stations in western districts, 80 } 154.
" " eastern " " 154.

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No. 7.—STATEMENT of EXPENDITURE at each of the Convict Stations during the Year 1875.

HEADS OF EXPENDITURE.	Table Bay	Garcia's Pass.	Kowie.	East London.	TOTAL. 923 Convicts.	Average Cost of each Convict under each Head of Expenditure.
	276 Convicts.	150 Convicts.	221 Convicts.	276 Convicts.		
DISCIPLINE.						
Salaries of officers, overseers, and constables	2,257 19 1	1,115 17 3	1,610 10 11	2,272 11 9	7,256 19 0	7 17 2 $\frac{1}{2}$
Allowances to officers and overseers	503 15 4	389 0 1	386 7 1	482 15 3	1,711 17 9	1 17 1
Rations for officers	560 4 7	378 14 4	497 16 5	541 2 1	1,977 17 5	2 2 10 $\frac{1}{2}$
Travelling expenses—	-	-	26 0 0	4 17 6	-	30 17 6
Peccuniary rewards to convicts	1 4 0	1 10 0	-	-	15 12 0	0 0 8
Arms, ammunition, accoutrements, and uniforms	215 2 6	96 18 0	147 12 6	158 18 0	618 11 0	0 13 4 $\frac{3}{4}$
Rewards for target practice and capture of deserters	1 12 0	10 14 6	5 8 0	23 0 0	40 14 6	0 0 10 $\frac{1}{4}$
Books and stationery	18 6 5	-	-	16 2 3	34 8 8	0 0 8 $\frac{1}{4}$
Total discipline	3,558 3 11	1,968 14 2	2,652 12 5	3,507 7 4	11,686 17 10	12 18 2
MAINTENANCE.						
Rations for convicts	3,821 7 10	2,702 10 4	2,959 9 8	3,641 0 11	13,124 8 9	14 4 4 $\frac{1}{2}$
Clothing and bedding	756 1 9	408 11 7	506 10 8	705 17 6	2,377 1 6	2 11 6
Freight and transport	-	75 16 0	76 1 8	120 11 3	272 8 11	0 5 10 $\frac{3}{4}$
Repairs, &c. to barracks	-	7 19 5	3 18 0	4 14 1	38 6 6	54 18 0
Fuel, lights, soap, tobacco, groceries, &c.	596 0 0	78 4 1	199 7 7	241 7 2	1,114 18 10	1 4 1 $\frac{1}{4}$
Medicines and hospital supplies	32 11 2	22 12 11	10 0 0	119 8 9	184 12 10	0 4 0
Vegetables	62 6 3	42 15 8	37 2 8	-	142 4 7	0 3 0 $\frac{3}{4}$
Store and miscellaneous	77 17 3	24 19 7	43 2 0	76 2 11	222 1 9	0 4 9 $\frac{1}{2}$
Total maintenance	5,354 3 8	3,359 8 2	3,886 8 4	4,942 15 0	17,402 15 2	18 19 0
Total expenditure during the year	8,912 7 7	5,328 2 4	6,489 0 9	8,450 2 4	29,179 13 0	—
Average cost per convict at each station—	32 5 9 $\frac{3}{4}$	35 5 9 $\frac{3}{4}$	29 7 2 $\frac{1}{2}$	30 12 3 $\frac{1}{4}$	31 12 2	—

No. 8.—RETURN showing the PROGRESS of the Convicts at the BREAKWATER STATION in ELEMENTARY RELIGIOUS INSTRUCTION during the Year 1875.

RACE.	At Station on 1st January 1875.	Total Ignorant.										Total Ignorant.										Total Ignorant.													
		Lord's Prayer.					The Belief.					Ten Commandments.					Lord's Prayer.					The Belief.					Ten Commandments.								
Not Baptized.		Baptized.		Total Ignorant.		Lord's Prayer.		The Belief.		Ten Commandments.		Not Baptized.		Baptized.		Total Ignorant.		Lord's Prayer.		The Belief.		Ten Commandments.		Not Baptized.		Baptized.		Total Ignorant.		Lord's Prayer.		The Belief.		Ten Commandments.	
Europeans and of European Descent	64	2	62	54	48	2	62	90	4	86	65	39	1	89	109	45	3	42	36	31	1	44													
Hotentots, Fingoes, Free Blacks, &c.	196	35	161	141	103	150	46	141	91	50	28	16	98	43	145	192	4	188	169	119	136	56													
Natives of the border tribes	29	11	18	16	8	26	3	13	10	3	1	1	13	—	—	16	26	2	24	14	11	25	1												
Totals	289	48	241	210	159	178	111	244	105	139	94	56	112	132	270	263	9	254	209	161	162	101													

(Signed) GEO. H. R. FISK, Chaplain.

No. 9.—RETURN showing the PROGRESS in ELEMENTARY RELIGIOUS INSTRUCTION of the Convicts who have been discharged from the BREAKWATER STATION during the Year 1875.

RACE.	Discharged during 1875.	State of Progress on first joining the Station.										State of Progress on Discharge.																
		Totally Ignorant.	Lord's Prayer.	The Belief.	Ten Commandments.	Not Baptized.	Baptized.	Totally Ignorant.	Lord's Prayer.	The Belief.	Ten Commandments.	Not Baptized.	Baptized.	Totally Ignorant.	Lord's Prayer.	The Belief.	Ten Commandments.	Not Baptized.	Baptized.									
Europeans and of European Descent	86	4	82	63	39	2	84	1	85	77	61	2	84	136	106	73	102	38										
Hotentots, Bushmen, Fingoes, and Free Blacks	136	89	46	32	23	104	31	3	132	12	7	3	14	2	14	1	14	2										
Natives of the border tribes	16	12	4	1	—	14	2	4	12	117	8	289	189	137	118	119	119											
Totals	237	106	132	96	62	120	117	8	289	189	8	289	189	137	118	119	119	119	119	119	119	119	119	119	119	119	119	119

(Signed) GEO. H. R. FISK, Chaplain.

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Enclosure No. 3.

REPORT of the SUPERINTENDENT of the KING WILLIAM'S TOWN
NATIVE HOSPITALS for the Year 1875.

SIR,

King William's Town, January 17, 1876.

In forwarding for the information of Government the accompanying yearly return of patients treated at the King William's Town Hospital from the 1st of January to the 31st December, 1875, I think the time has arrived, and that it will not be out of place, to take a retrospective view of what has been done in the Medical Department of British Kaffraria for the benefit of both natives and Europeans, and also to unfold a plan which Sir George Grey would have carried out for the benefit of the native tribes under our Government had he remained long enough here.

In 1856 the province of British Kaffraria was entirely destitute of hospital accommodation for either civilians or natives, and there was no civil practitioner within 80 miles of King William's Town. Independently of this state of things, there was a large native population, amongst whom a large number of native doctors were practising, and over whom they exercised a very extensive influence, for they taught the people that sickness was the result of witchcraft, and that they alone were able to cure the sick person; the people implicitly believed in their power, and whenever any person was afflicted with sickness, the witch doctor was sent for to smell out the individual who bewitched the patient, this procedure generally ended in the torture by fire or stinging ants and the death of the person accused, in addition to his being stripped of all his cattle and property.

The sick people, whether suffering from fevers or dysentery, or labouring under inflammation of the lungs, were generally covered over with cow dung, while the doctor professed by virtue of his power, combined with suction, to extract the poisoned matter from the interior of the body. Sometimes the doctor exultingly exhibited a lizard, a piece of stick, or a stone (which he had concealed about him), as the successful result of this operation. Some however, out of this body of doctors treated disease by the exhibition of such medicinal herbs as experience pointed out to be good, but as to the true nature of disease and its treatment they were in ignorance.

From amongst this body of doctors false prophets frequently arose, inciting the people to war. Every Kaffir war had its witch doctor, who professed to be able to bewitch the enemy, and to impart strength to the Kaffirs to overcome the Europeans.

The state of the sick in the hands of the ignorant uneducated practitioners of the country was such as to call forth the best efforts of the Government in their behalf to put an end to the trifling with human life and to the baneful influence of the witch doctors, the disturbers of the peace of the Colony.

Sound policy, humanity, and duty had their share in the establishment of the system of medical relief, and the extension

of the system was contemplated as soon as it could effectively be carried out. There were strong prejudices to overcome, and very great obstacles on the part of the chiefs and witch doctors to be overthrown, as self interest and native power were both being interfered with and undermined.

All that can be said is that a foundation has been laid, as about 60,000 people have been attended since the hospital was opened, a favourable feeling towards the medical profession created, and some of the prejudices and obstacles removed, but very much remains to be done before we can place medical aid within the reach of the native tribes.

The Government had in view one central hospital, and in connexion with it to have district surgeonies with small hospitals or dispensaries in such localities as it might deem desirable.

It was believed that the plan could not be carried out so as to benefit the native tribes, and destroy the influence of the witch doctors, except by educating native surgeons and employing them afterwards as district surgeons, with liberty to practice amongst their people.

Holding an appointment under Government would attach them to the Crown, and the love of making money would stimulate them to labour amongst their people, and so drive the witch doctor out of the field; for it is impossible that ignorance and superstition can long compete with science and skill in the treatment of the sick. Uncivilised human nature, as well as civilised, seeks relief from suffering and pain; and the savage, in suffering and pain, will in time have recourse to those who can afford him relief, in spite of all opposition and prejudices, for the savage clings to life as well as any other human being.

It was felt that the system of medical relief could not be extended by any other means amongst the native tribes, because the amount of talent and skill requisite to overcome the prejudices and obstacles in the way could not be procured except at great expense, and even then few (if any) European doctors, possessing the ability and skill necessary, would bury themselves amongst savage tribes, and devote themselves to native practice with the amount of zeal and constancy requisite to make headway against the prejudices, obstacles, and difficulties they would have to encounter, and not to follow up the impression made would be to overthrow in the native mind the work so successfully commenced.

The Right Honourable the present Earl of Derby says in reference to the plan of educating native surgeons: "I believe " that of all plans for impressing on natives the advantages of " civilised life you have adopted the simplest and most effective, " and I shall be glad to hear how the experiment succeeds;" and the Right Honourable Earl Grey says: "The plan of training " some Kaffir youths as surgeons I think an excellent one, pro- " vided you can find young men of that race having sufficient " general instruction and knowledge of the English language to " profit by a medical education in this country."

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GOOD HOPE. "If such young men can be found who have at the same time
kept up an intimate acquaintance with their own countrymen, I
can hardly doubt that sending them for a year or two to this
country to complete their medical education, and stationing them
as surgeons amongst the Kaffirs, must have a very good effect,
and I should be very glad to learn that the scheme was to be
tried."

A most distinguished member of the Royal College of Physicians in Ireland, and Professor of Midwifery in Trinity College, Dr. Churchill, writes to me on the subject: "An attempt should be made to introduce medicine itself amongst the natives, by educating (at first) one or two of the most intelligent youths, who may at some future time take charge of hospitals and practise amongst their countrymen. I cannot conceive a more powerful lever for moving the native races. It has broken caste in India, and will do much to identify the natives there with English interests and English rule; and it would not be difficult if you were to select one or two of the native youths; they might be employed as dressers in your hospital, and gradually advanced as they improved until they were fit to be sent to England to complete their education."

"The constant intercourse with yourself, the sharing in your benevolent efforts to relieve those who are sick, would alone half civilise them; and on their return from this country they would carry back, not only a knowledge of medicine, but of the habits and conveniences of civilised life.

"You ask how far the profession would be inclined to contribute to the education in the form of free admission to lectures, &c., I can't take upon me to say. Some would; I am sure I would gladly lend my aid in the way of guidance and supervision. 200*l.* a year would cover all expenses here, and the benefit would, I think, be beyond price."

The question now is, can any of the missionary colleges or training schools in this country produce any young men sufficiently educated and of sufficient steadiness of character, having at the same time a taste for the medical profession? and if so, how the expense of educating them could be met.

Application to the different educational establishments will solve the first; and I believe if Government considered the plan worthy of adoption, and brought the subject before some of the more influential tribes through their resident agents, means might be forthcoming to educate two young men of undoubted good and steady character, if such are to be found.

I have, &c.

(Signed) **J. P. FITZGERALD, M.D., M.R.C.S. Eng.,**
Superintendent of Native Hospitals.

**The Hon. the Colonial Secretary,
Cape Town.**

CAPE OF
GOOD HOPE.

YEARLY RETURN of PATIENTS treated in the KING WILLIAM'S TOWN HOSPITAL from 1st January to 31st December 1875.

DETAIL.	Number.	DISEASES.				
		Fevers.	Eruptive Fevers.	Injuries.	Operations.	Unclassified Cases.
56 remained in Hospital	17	2	—	—	—	—
478 admitted in the year	—	4	—	—	—	—
—	21	18	2	—	—	—
—	14	49	10	1	—	—
—	—	—	—	—	—	—
434 Total	—	212	—	—	—	—
460 discharged in the year	16	19	20	—	—	—
23 died in the year	12	44	8	—	—	—
—	—	7	4	—	—	—
—	—	—	—	—	—	—
61 remaining in hospital	19	—	2	—	—	—
—	32	—	—	—	—	—
634 Total	—	193	—	—	—	—
Parties presented, admitted in the year	—	—	51	—	—	—
Total	—	—	—	—	—	—
Not paying	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	—	288	—	—	—	478

CAPE OF
GOOD HOPE. **YEARLY RETURN of OUT-DOOR PATIENTS treated from the 1st January
to 31st of December 1875.**

—	Treated at the Dispensary.	Visited at their Residences.	REMARKS.
Natives	Male - 943	—	2,121 dispensary cases, and 534 indoor cases.
	Female - 1,178	—	
Europeans	Male - —	—	
	Female - —	—	
Total -	— 2,121	—	

(Signed) **J. P. FITZGERALD, M.D., M.R.C.S. Eng.,**
Superintendent of Native Hospitals.

CEYLON.

CEYLON.

No. 5.

Governor The Right Honourable SIR W. H. GREGORY,
K.C.M.G., to The EARL OF CARNARVON.

MY LORD,
Queen's House, Colombo, Ceylon,
October 27, 1876.

I HAVE the honour to forward to your Lordship the Blue Book of Ceylon for the year 1875, and to submit the following report on its contents.

2. Revenue and Expenditure.

The revenue for 1875 was Rs. 14,443,980 and the expenditure Rs. 13,015,258, showing an excess of revenue over expenditure of Rs. 1,428,722. As compared with 1874 the revenue shows an increase of Rs. 1,200,692, and the expenditure an increase of Rs. 1,173,332.

The following are the principal items of increases and decreases :

3. Revenue.

Arrears of revenue increase, Rs. 110,907. This increase is apparent rather than real, for it is principally owing to arrears of rented revenue due in December 1874 having been brought to account in January 1875, the closing week of 1874 having been observed as Government holidays.

Customs.—Increase, Rs. 75,696. The increase is partly ascribable to the same cause, partly to larger importations of general goods.

Land Sales.—Increase, Rs. 191,210. The increase is principally due to the same cause as that referred to under heading arrears of revenue.

Land Revenue.—Increase, paddy Rs. 102,764.

Licenses, Arrack, Rum, and Toddy.—Increase, Rs. 225,890, which accrued mainly in the sale of the rents of the western and central provinces.

Under the heading "stamps," there was an increase of Rs. 54,592, and under that of salt, an increase of Rs. 40,749.

The chief increase under the heading "reimbursements" is on account of prison labour, and amounts to Rs. 30,000. It is due to the extensive employment of convicts in the Colombo Breakwater Works.

Railway Receipts.—Increase, Rs. 606,336. The receipts include the earnings of the branch line to Nawalapitiya, and a sum of Rs. 79,000 which was earned in December 1874, but brought to account in January 1875.

The only decreases of any importance are the following :

Survey Fees.—Rs. 28,962. Over payments recovered, Rs. 163,654, which is owing to the receipts in 1874 having been swelled by an exceptional item of Rs. 270,000 refunded by the military authorities as an over payment of military contribution.

Pearl Fishery.—Decrease of Rs. 101,471. There was no pearl fishery in 1875.

4. Expenditure.

Under the head *Education*, there is an increase of Rs. 33,997, of which Rs. 13,479 is on account of grant-in-aid schools, and new schools opened during the year.

Hospitals.—Increase, Rs. 39,123. A large new hospital near Galle was opened in 1875.

Works and Buildings.—Increase, Rs. 107,601. A classified statement of expenditure will be found under the head *Public Works*, which shows also the expenditure on roads, streets, and bridges, on which there is an increase of Rs. 146,403.

Miscellaneous.—Increase, Rs. 348,641. The reception of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, the increase to the salaries of the clerical branch of the establishment, the provision of additional accommodation for the troops, and loss on exchange, are the principal items which have caused this increase.

Colonial Store.—Increase, Rs. 206,179. A large proportion of this increase should be regarded as a recoverable advance, having been incurred in the purchase of coals in the local market in anticipation of a rise in the price of coals.

Railway Services.—Increase, Rs. 65,784. The expenditure includes the cost of fish plating 27½ miles of the line, the provision of additional accommodation, and the cost of a state carriage for His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales.

Railway Construction.—Increase, Rs. 21,000. Rs. 147,000 was paid for the redemption of Nawalapitiya debentures, and

CEYLON. Rs. 126,000 as bonus to Messrs. Reid and Mitchell for losses sustained in the construction of the Nawalapitiya line.

The only decreases that need be noticed are—

Revenue Services.—Decrease, Rs. 34,068, chiefly owing to a diminished manufacture and collection of salt.

Administration of Justice.—Decrease, Rs. 14,792. Many charges on account of witnesses' expenses, and batta to jurors in 1873, were brought to account in 1874.

Contribution towards Military Expenditure.—Decrease, Rs. 90,000. The contribution was the same as in 1874, but a larger refund was received by the Colonial Treasury on account of the deficiency of the number of the troops.

5. Assets and Liabilities.

The assets of the colony on December 31, 1875, amounted to Rs. 5,896,699 or 552,815*l.*, and the liabilities to Rs. 4,084,200 or 382,893*l.*, the excess of the former being therefore Rs. 1,812,499 or 169,921*l.*, and deducting the sum of Rs. 500,000 required by the instructions of the Secretary of State to be held in reserve, the net balance amounted to Rs. 1,312,499 or 123,046*l.*

The debt of the Colony on the same date was 623,719*l.*, of which 600,000*l.* is the balance of the 700,000*l.* raised under the Ordinances Nos. 19 of 1862 and 7 of 1864, for the construction of the railway from Colombo to Kandy. For the repayment of this amount the sum of 58,000*l.* per annum is contributed by general revenue to a sinking fund, which had to its credit at the close of the year a sum of 316,800*l.* The batch of debentures next repayable amounts to 250,000*l.*, and falls due in 1878. The balance of the debt, 23,719*l.*, is a part of the 40,000*l.* raised under Ordinance No. 2 of 1872 for the construction of the railway extension to Nawalapitiya, and will be paid off from current revenue in 1877.

6. Imports and Exports.

The value of the imports in 1875, exclusive of specie, was Rs. 44,828,049, or Rs. 1,818,814 less than the corresponding amount in 1874, Rs. 46,646,863. There was an increase of Rs. 11,467,647 on the exports, the value for the two years having been, 1874, Rs. 44,868,358, and 1875, Rs. 56,336,005. Adding to these the specie imported and exported, the total value of the imports and exports of 1875 stands thus, as compared with the preceding year:—

Imports.

			Rs.
1874	-	-	56,918,600
1875	-	-	57,186,559

Exports.

			Rs.
1874	-	-	46,873,887
1875	-	-	57,337,707

The latter total is made up as follows:—

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	Rs.
Ceylon produce	51,725,566
Imports exported	4,610,440
Specie	1,001,701
	<hr/>
	Rs. 57,337,707

The following extracts from the report of the Principal Collector of Customs exhibit the principal items of increase and decrease in the value of the imports and exports.

Imports.

Arms and Ammunition show an increase in value of Rs. 60,171, and in duty of Rs. 3,383.

Cotton Manufactures.—There is a decrease in quantity of 250,113 pieces and 19,958 packages, and in value of Rs. 994,245 from the United Kingdom, including Suez, a fact which had to be noted in last year's report; but an improvement has taken place in the importation from the British and Foreign Possessions in India, resulting in an increase of Rs. 156,827. From France there is again an increase which is represented by Rs. 121,229.

Food Articles.—As compared with 1874, there has been a general decrease. In beef and pork of Rs. 2,660; in biscuits, Rs. 2,773; in butter, Rs. 10,974; in ham and bacon, Rs. 17,284; in oilman stores, Rs. 51,171; in sugar, Rs. 16,863; in curry stuffs, Rs. 93,430; in fish, dried and salted, Rs. 116,499. But wheat flower shows an increase of Rs. 41,099, and tea of Rs. 64,651.

Grain.—There is a general decline in all descriptions of grain, resulting in a decrease of the revenue therefrom of Rs. 4,569, and in value of Rs. 1,245,737. The following comparative statements of the quantities of rice imported and entered for home consumption during the last three years afford a concise view of the operations in the staple articles of food:—

	Bushels.
Imported in 1873	-
" 1875	-
	<hr/>
Decrease compared with 1873	-
	431,950
	<hr/>
Imported in 1874	-
" 1875	-
	<hr/>
Decrease compared with 1874	-
	441,582
	<hr/>
Entered for home consumption in 1873	5,718,160
" " 1875	5,377,785
	<hr/>
Decrease compared with 1873	-
	340,375

CEYLON.

		Bushels.
Entered for home consumption in 1874		5,444,395
"	1875	5,377,785
Decrease compared with 1874		66,610

Metals and metal-ware:—An increase of Rs. 122,139. Live stock:—Of all kinds there is an increase in quantity and in value of No. 14,518 and Rs. 207,950. Malt liquor:—The decrease in the value of this article is Rs. 98,363; of 264,383 gallons imported only 215,131 gallons were entered for duty.

There is an increase in the import trade with Australia of Rs. 99,731, and with Hong Kong of Rs. 82,359. This results from large arrivals of live stock, wheat flour, and manure from the first-named country, and of silks, sugar, tea, and cigars from the last named. The increases with Italy, Mauritius, and Zanzibar are very trifling. With the Maldives and Lacadives the trade still shows a decline, principally in dried and salted fish, and in rice. This latter article is not the produce of these islands, but is taken there from Chittagong, chiefly to barter for fish, &c., and the excess remaining after such transactions is brought to Colombo and Galle for disposal.

Specie shows an increase of Rs. 2,086,768, which was contributed in the following manner:—

	Rs.
From United Kingdom	- 37,155
„ Australia	- 965,810
„ British India	- 1,501,825
„ French India	- 960
	2,505,750
Deducting decrease—	Rs.
From France	- 180
„ Suez	- 417,867
„ Hong Kong	- 935
	418,982
Total increase	- 2,086,768

Exports.

Coffee.—Plantation and native show an increase in quantity of 175,655 cwts. and 17,674 cwts. respectively over 1874; but a decrease of 19,931 cwts. and 7,146 cwts. as compared with 1873. The total result, therefore, is an increase in 1875 of 193,329 cwts. over 1874, and a decrease of 27,076 cwts. on the exports of 1873. In spite, however, of the decrease in quantity in 1875, as compared with 1873, the value of both kinds shows an increase of Rs. 2,866,498, the value for the year under review being fixed by the Chamber of Commerce at Rs. 50 for plantation and Rs. 40

for native. The export of this article during the periods mentioned is succinctly stated in the following table :—

—	Plantation.	Native.	Of both kinds.	Value.
1875 - -	Cwts. 809,834	Cwts. 114,431	Cwts. 924,266	Rs. 45,069,020
1874 - -	634,179	96,757	730,937	32,166,517
Increase -	175,655	17,674	193,329	12,902,503
1875 - -	809,834	114,431	924,266	45,069,020
1873 - -	829,765	121,577	951,342	42,202,522
Decrease -	19,931	7,146	27,076	—
Increase - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	2,866,498

Cinnamon.—Shows a considerable increase both in quantity and value of 274,819 cwts., Rs. 137,365; and 246,256 cwts., Rs. 123,143, as compared with the two preceding years.

Copperah.—As compared with 1873 and 1874 there is a decrease of 26,440 cwts., Rs. 140,604, and 21,341 cwts., Rs. 138,153.

Coir Stuffs.—Similarly a decrease of 5,532 cwts., Rs. 22,267, and 21,168 cwts., Rs. 138,193.

Cocoa-nut Oil.—Compared with 1874 shows a decrease of cwts. 21,223, Rs. 264,909; but compared with 1873 an increase of 9,982 cwts., Rs. 123,539.

Arrack.—The quantity exported in 1875 was 86,759 gallons less than in 1874, and 37,715 gallons less than in 1873, and amounted to only 86,709 gallons, in the following proportions :—

From Colombo, gallons - 1,020
 " Galle " - 83,689 } Value Rs. 71,769, and
 " Beruwala " - 2,000 } 80 cents.

Tobacco.—Manufactured, which is an article of export peculiar to the northern province, shows an increase in quantity of 2,362 cwts. and 1,364 cwts. over 1874 and 1873; but a decrease in value of Rs. 265,549 and Rs. 227,745 respectively.

Imports Exported.

Cotton Goods.—Show an increase in quantity and value of 85 packages, 45,471 pieces, Rs. 335,391 over 1874, and 217 packages, 82,684 pieces, Rs. 511,355 over 1873.

Cotton Twist.—Shows a decrease in quantity and value of 109 packages, Rs. 49,246, and 265 packages, Rs. 120,795 from 1874 and 1873.

Rice.—Shows a decrease of 43,478 $\frac{1}{4}$ bushels, Rs. 141,304, as compared with 1874, but an increase of 59,573 bushels, Rs. 193,615 over 1873.

7. Public Works.

The total expenditure under this head during the year amounted to Rs. 3,808,502, the cost of the establishment being

CEYLON. Rs. 372,648, or about 10 per cent. on the outlay. In 1874 the expenditure was Rs. 3,614,815, showing an increase in 1875 of Rs. 193,687. The expenditure for 1875 may be classified under the following heads:—

—	Western Province.	North Western Province.	Southern Province.	Eastern Province.	Northern Province.	North Central Province.	Central Province.	Total.
<i>Works and Buildings.</i>	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.
New works and buildings	219,403 94	25,075 78	35,078 12	11,515 68	29,423 25	28,440 13	54,215 54	400 0
Alterations and additions to buildings	16,558 31	11,768 55	12,720 52	7,191 46	1,311 85	13,448 46	17,575 48	80,574 63
Repairs to buildings	50,248 4	6,965 96	11,523 66	5,708 55	12,419 68	3,352 52	35,169 68	125,573 9
<i>Roads, Streets, Bridges, and Canals.</i>								
New roads	61,956 7	5,103 53	5,000 0	—	38,561 97	—	102,916 78	102,916 78
Additions and improvements to roads	29,416 74	21,575 4	42,263 15	89,610 45	98,644 4	62,343 52	59,483 84	389,366 78
Upkeep of roads	326,075 27	30,922 63	33,716 35	8,732 5	27,247 61	4,013 55	127,036 47	309,993 30
New bridges	232,575 97	1,412 88	7,614 97	3,588 17	40,234 16	9,660 4	509,514 15	437,243 55
Repair of bridges	25,093 54	3,790 62	2,486 72	4,471 60	2,428 82	392 0	4,005 0	42,578 30
Inland navigation	23,409 49	4,330 15	—	—	—	—	—	27,820 64
<i>Irrigation Works.</i>								
New works	15,003 23	6,591 93	80,879 91	59,870 18	—	76,424 92	—	238,570 17
Upkeep works	809 91	1,988 25	8,730 92	10,056 65	—	—	974 09	22,509 82
<i>Departmental Charges.</i>								
Ferry boats	2,090 53	—	2,103 58	60 0	761 29	314 90	—	5,330 30
General service	11,661 19	—	197 86	—	—	—	2,015 26	18,374 30
Miscellaneous	137,807 79	16,465 62	5,316 69	4,283 43	15,831 43	543 64	52,248 25	281,966 85
	<i>98,824 61</i>	<i>83,571 10</i>	<i>33,716 35</i>	<i>16,842 0</i>	<i>27,247 61</i>	<i>9,880 45</i>	<i>231,338 65</i>	<i>430,359 87</i>
Establishment	1,152,681 2	178,226 80	306,399 27	245,396 45	284,661 80	230,422 1	1,038,067 71	3,435,854 43
Total Rs.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3,808,502 97

The italic figures show the amount of private contribution on account of grant-in-aid roads.

The Queen's houses and their furniture and equipment are reported by the Director of Public Works and the Colonial Storekeeper to be in fair order.

8. Survey Department.

The amount realised by the sale of Crown lands in 1875 was less than in either of the two preceding years, in consequence of fewer lots having been brought into the market. The Surveyor-General reports that 17,609 acres were disposed of for Rs. 599,494, or at an average rate of over Rs. 34 an acre, exclusive of survey fees, which amount to Rs. 39,230. Certificates were given for 954 lots, aggregating 2,337 acres, the survey fees on which amounted to Rs. 6,871.

The results of the sales and the details of the lands otherwise alienated from the Crown in the several provinces are exhibited in the subjoined table:—

Provinces.	Lots sold or granted at half value.					Lots settled on Certificate and on Grants, &c.			Total Receipts for each Province.
	No. of Lots.	Extent.	Purchase Amount.	Average Rate per Acre.	Fees.	No. of Lots.	Extent.	Fees.	
Central	597	A. 8,698 1 25' 37	Rs. 457,535 74	Rs. 52 66	Rs. 15,892 0	144	A. 300 0 24'	Rs. 864 50	Rs. 474,292 24
Western	949	3,796 1 12'	58,187 17	15 32	10,198 50	699	1,768 2 33'	5,217 50	73,603 17
Eastern	728	1,620 3 39'	23,887 90	14 73	4,993 50	7	51 2 7'	125 50	29,006 90
Southern	262	952 3 39'	15,282 21	16 1	2,418 50	22	36 2 26'	112 50	17,793 21
Northern	78	210 1 12'	4,620 76	21 53	547 0	—	—	—	5,067 75
North-western	259	2,339 3 11' 50	40,100 16	17 14	5,181 0	82	180 0 19' 50	551 50	45,832 66
North-central	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	2,853	17,608 3 18' 87	599,463 93	34 4	39,230 50	954	2,337 0 29' 50	6,871 50	645,595 93
Temple lands showing fees due on the title plans issued	—	—	—	—	—	542	34,328 0 30'	21,530 75	—
Fees annually recovered on account of temple land, title plans	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3,296 25
Fees for Tracings, copies of plans, and definition of boundaries	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3,141 1
Total	2,853	17,608 3 18' 87	599,463 93	34 4	39,230 50	1,406	36,665 1 19' 50	31,543 26	632,033 19

The gross expenditure of the department amounted to Rs. 287,467, from which should be deducted for purposes of comparison the following items :—

	Rs.
Chena land surveys	26937.08
Railway surveys	9333.87
Irrigation surveys	21901.83
Miscellaneous works such as surveys of reserved forests and disputed boundaries	44571.49

which with some minor items that will be found in the Surveyor-General's Report, amount in all to Rs. 108,664, leaving Rs. 178,803 as the cost of the ordinary work of surveying lands for sale and settlement.

9. Railway.

The number of miles open for public traffic in 1875 was 91 $\frac{1}{2}$, viz., Colombo to Kandy 74 $\frac{1}{2}$ miles, Peradeniya to Nawalapitiya 17 miles, against an average of 83 miles in 1874.

The gross receipts amounted to Rs. 2,896,223 or Rs. 470,663 more than the earnings in 1874 Rs. 2,425,560, and the working expenses to Rs. 982,830 as against Rs. 886,845 in 1874. The difference between these figures and those in the returns of the Auditor-General is accounted for by the fact that the latter show the amounts brought to account within the year, and the former the actual amounts of the annual receipts and expenditure. The actual net increase of profits over 1874 was Rs. 374,678.

The number of passengers carried was 858,094 against 708,376 in the previous year, and the tonnage of goods, inclusive of break-

CEYLON. — water materials (18,990 tons) 212,229 tons against 167,975 tons in 1874.

A contract for the construction of a line from Colombo to Morotuwa, a distance of 11½ miles, was let to Mr. Mitchell during the year at Rs. 282,049, exclusive of permanent way and rolling stock, which are provided by Government, and the line is to be open for traffic by February 1877. The cost is to be defrayed out of general revenue.

10. *Legislation.*

The ordinances passed during the year were few and unimportant.

No. 1 is an ordinance to amend the law respecting warehouse warrants.

No. 2 provides for the construction of the railway to Morotuwa.

No. 3 amends the Ordinances 16 and 17 of 1865 in respect of the assessment of certain rates.

No. 4 amends the wharf and warehouse ordinance of 1865.

No. 5 declares the validity of certain instruments executed before district judges, commissioners of requests, and justices of the peace, and certified under the hands, but not under the seals, of those officers.

No. 6, repealing the breakwater ordinance No. 4 of 1874, and providing for the improvement of the Colombo Harbour, was introduced to meet the requirements of the Lords of the Treasury.

No. 7 empowers the Governor, with the advice of the Executive Council, to exempt substances used as manure from payment of toll.

Nos. 8, 9, and 11, are the money bills providing for the supplementary expenditure of 1874 and 1875, and the contingent services of 1876.

No. 10 makes provision for the payment of a special rate of pension to Sir Edward Creasy.

11. *Public Health.*

The year was marked by a severe visitation of cholera, the total number of cases registered in the Island amounting to 3,357, of which 1,906 or 56.77 per cent. terminated fatally. In Colombo there were 721 cases and 421 deaths. An interesting account of the origin and history of the epidemic is contained in the report of the Principal Civil Medical Officer.

The annexed extracts from the same report furnish the statistics of admissions into the civil and the gaol hospitals, the death rates, the prevailing diseases, and the number of persons vaccinated during the year:—

“ Since the year 1869, as I pointed out in my last annual report, the numbers seeking hospital treatment have been steadily increasing. During the year 1875, the total number

of cases treated amounted to 14,258, being an increase of 211 over 1874, and 1,705 over the figures of 1873.

" The death rate during the year was 10.84 per cent. of the cases treated, or '49 higher than the previous year, and '66 than 1873.

" The prevailing diseases were the same as in former years:— Fevers, diseases of the lungs, affections of the liver and spleen, diseases of the stomach and bowels, venereal affections, skin diseases, ulcers, &c. The largest number of admissions into hospital has been under the head 'venereal affections'; 216 were admitted, or an increase of 10.47 per cent. over the figures of last year. The death rate is, however, less, being '44 per cent. for 1875 against '54 for 1874.

" The number of cases of fever treated amounted during the year to 1,524, with a death rate of 3.47 per cent., showing no material increase over 1874.

" A diminution of 9 per cent. is noticeable in the number of cases admitted for lung disease, but the mortality is higher, being 19.91 per cent. against 18.63 in 1874.

" There have been 244 cases with 18 deaths from diseases of the liver and spleen, showing an increase of 20 over the number of admissions, and of six over the number of deaths.

" The mortality from bowel complaints has been as usual very high. Out of 10,941 cases treated 694, or 35.75 per cent., proved fatal. Compared with the figures of the previous year, there is an increase shown of 1.82 per cent. of cases in the admissions and 2.28 per cent. over the number of deaths.

" The Central and the Western Provinces have contributed the largest number of admissions and deaths under this head.

" The highest mortality was, however, from dropsies. 37.97 per cent. of the cases treated died; but these figures are nearly 2 per cent. lower than those of 1874. 1,091 cases appear under the head of 'skin diseases,' the Northern Province contributing the largest share.

" The death rate under this head is as small as last year, being 2.47 per cent.

" Although the number of cases admitted for abscesses and ulcers shows a diminution of 1.16 per cent. from the figures in the previous return, there has been, I regret to observe, an increase in the mortality; it being for 1875, 4.14 against 2.1 in 1874.

" Wounds and injuries show no material augmentation either as regards admissions or deaths.

" The return marked A.V. clearly shows how the Malabar element tends to increase the mortality in our hospitals. The Malabars, as distinguished from other races, have had a death rate of 19.03 per cent., while that of the latter has only been 7.46 per cent. But in the number of Malabars admitted during the year 1875, there has been a decrease of 152, or 3 per cent., as compared with 1874, the death rate, however, being '44 higher.

CEYLON.

“As frequently pointed out by my predecessor, the Malabar Cooly has a great aversion to hospital treatment, and in consequence he seeks admission at a very advanced stage of disease, and often in a moribund condition, increasing enormously our total mortality.

“The number of sick treated in the gaol hospitals amounted to 3,930 with 109 deaths, or 2·77 per cent. of the number treated, indicating an increase over both the number of cases and deaths of the previous year.

“Cholera, which carried off twenty-two prisoners in the Northern, six in the Western, one in the Southern, and one in the Central Province, contributes towards the excess in the mortality, and were it not for this, the death rate of the year 1875 would have been almost on a par with that of the previous year. But, even including the deaths from cholera, the mortality 2·77 per cent. contrasts very favourably with that of the years 1871 and 1872, when it was as high as 6·8 and 5·05 per cent. respectively.

“The number of persons vaccinated during the year 1875, as per return G.I., amounted to 77,082, showing a decrease of 199 when compared with the figures of the previous year, which can be accounted for by the employment of vaccinators for cholera duties, and the consequent stopping of vaccination during the prevalence of the disease in the Island. Of the above number 56,919 have been discharged with satisfactory marks, 5,960 failed, and the result of 14,203 could not be ascertained, as the subjects failed to present themselves for examination.”

12. Education.

Fair progress has been made both as regards the Government and the grant-in-aid schools. 40 new Government schools were opened during the year and seven closed, the number at the close of the year being 276, which were attended by 12,776 pupils, the average attendance being 9,334 as against 243 schools, 11,719 pupils, and an average attendance of 8,829 in 1874. The increase being therefore 33 schools, 1,057 pupils, and 505 in daily attendance. The cost to the Government for the year of the education given in these schools was at the rate of Rs. 13·15 a head.

One hundred new schools were registered for grants-in-aid during the year, the total number presented for grants being 654, the number of children receiving instruction in these schools being 41,343, and the number examined under the system of payments by results or grants-in-aid 18,694, showing an increase as compared with 1874 of 59 schools, and 5,784 children receiving instruction.

On the whole, therefore, taking the two classes together, there was an increase of 92 schools and 6,841 children, the numbers for the respective years being 930 schools with 54,119 scholars, and 838 schools with 47,278 scholars.

The total expenditure of the department amounted to Rs. 352,848, against Rs. 318,851 in 1874.

A considerable portion of the increase was expended on grant-in-aid schools, the grants obtained exceeding those of 1874 by Rs. 13,479. It is gratifying to note that while a consideration of these figures discloses how much remains to be done before the advantages of education are brought home to the general mass of the population, which numbered 2,405,287 by the census of 1871, a comparison of them with those of 1869 affords most satisfactory evidence of the great strides that have been made in the interval, especially in the development of the grant-in-aid system. The subjoined table gives the results of the two years:—

CEYLON.

—	1869.	1875.
Number of Government schools - - -	120	276
Number of pupils in Government schools - - -	7,156	12,776
Number of grant schools - - -	20	654
Number of pupils in grant schools - - -	1,595	40,279
Amount of grants - - -	Rs. 11,204	Rs. 115,760
Total expenditure on education - - -	Rs. 164,669	Rs. 352,848

A sum of Rs. 22,691 was received by way of fees during the year.

The following tables show the number of children on the list, the daily attendance in the several classes, and the cost per head of the education in the Government and grant-in-aid schools respectively.

Government Schools.

—	Number of Schools.	Number of Pupils.	Average daily attendance.	Cost per head.
English boys' schools -	12	890	804	Rs. cts. 62 66
English girls' schools -	4	304	234	52 45
Anglo-vernacular boys' schools - -	33	1,644	1,297	12 99
Anglo-vernacular girls' schools - -	7	199	144	19 1
Vernacular boys' schools	191	8,572	6,088	6 93
Vernacular girls' schools	29	1,167	767	5 99

CEYLON.

Grant-in-aid-Schools.

—	Number of Schools.	Number of Children examined.	Total Number of Children on List.	Amount of Grants.	Average per head of Children examined.	Average per head of total Number in the School.
English schools -	56	{ 3,062 *1,423 }	4,976	Rs. 30,427 65†	Rs. 9 93	Rs. 6 11
Anglo-vernacular -	85	2,410	5,016	15,042 40	6 24	2 99
Vernacular -	484	13,222	30,285	72,727 0	5 50	2 40

* Number examined in vernacular literature.

† This amount includes the grants paid for passes in vernacular literature.

The amounts of grants received by the several missions are shown in the subjoined table:—

—	English	Anglo-vernacular.	Vernacular.	(C.) Schools.	Total.	Amount of Grants.
American -	1	13	89	9	112	Rs. 20,074 07
Baptist -	1	7	28	—	36	4,281 85
Church of England (C. M. S.) -	6	29	96	9	140	17,552 31
Church of England (S. P. G.) -	13	8	38	9	68	13,378 32
Presbyterian -	—	—	2	—	2	171 80
Private -	2	3	26	—	31	8,606 20
Roman Catholic -	21	3	117	1	142	35,445 84
Wesleyan -	12	22	88	1	123	20,745 28
	56	85	484	29	654	120,255 67

This gives Rs. 183.87 as the average grant per school. In 1874 the average of 595 schools was Rs. 176.40.

Prefixed to the Blue Book returns will be found a table giving a statistical view of the progress of the Colony for the years 1822 to 1875 inclusive, and an abstract of the principal statistical results for the years 1874 and 1875.

I have, &c.

(Signed) W. H. GREGORY.

The Right Hon. the Earl of Carnarvon,
&c. &c.

HONG KONG.

Hong Kong.

No. 6.

Governor SIR A. E. KENNEDY, K.C.M.G., C.B., to The
EARL OF CARNARVON.

Government House, Hong Kong,

My LORD,

August 24, 1876.

I HAVE the honour to transmit the duplicate Blue Book of Hong Kong for the year 1875.

1. Nothing has occurred during the year now reported upon to detract from the satisfactory report transmitted by the Colonial Secretary for the year 1874.

Taxes, Duties, Fees, &c.

2. There have been no alterations under these heads calling for notice. Any changes have been in the direction of remission of charges.

Revenue.

3. There has been a net increase of 8,710*l.* 15*s.* 1*d.* as compared with the preceding year.

Expenditure.

4. There has been a decrease to the extent of 11,060*l.* 14*s.* 7*½d.* during the same period.

Public Debt.

There is none.

Public Works.

5. The return of Public Works at page 36 will show a most creditable amount of valuable public work has been completed during the year, at a cost of 30,867*l.* 3*s.* 9*d.*

Public Buildings.

6. The nature of the climate and the destructive ravages of white ants render monthly inspections (which are regularly made) necessary, and all defects are immediately made good.

Legislation.

7. The Ordinances passed have been so fully reported upon during the year, that comment upon them is unnecessary. Several of them have been directed to the regulation of coolie emigration, and the prevention of abuses connected with it. They have been successful in their object.

HONG KONG.

Civil Establishment.

8. There have been no material changes, and those which have occurred have been reported from time to time.

Population.

9. The total population numbers 121,985 persons, and is on the increase.

Prisons.

10. The gaol is a model of cleanliness and good order, and though susceptible of various improvements, fully meets the requirements of the Colony.

Crime has greatly decreased, and is generally of a trivial kind, and seldom undetected.

The number of prisoners has decreased 50 per cent. within three years. A perusal of the statistical table at page 168 will prove interesting.

Post Office.

11. Various postal changes have taken place, all for the better, and the general management of the department leaves nothing to be desired.

The report of the Postmaster-General details the improvements which have been effected.

Education.

12. I am unwilling to detract from the interest of the report of the Inspector of Schools by commenting upon it. The Central or Government School and the various denominational schools are silently but surely leavening the surrounding mass of ignorance and superstition.

Shipping.

13. The Harbour-master's report is full of interest to those connected with the commerce of this Colony. The foreign and Chinese shipping entering the harbour in 1875 has exceeded that of 1874 by 412,672 registered tons.

Of this increase, 68.65 per cent. is due to vessels under the British flag.

14. The trade with Australia has greatly increased, and a regular line of steamers has taken the place of sailing vessels.

Of the large per-cent-age of steam over sailing vessels, 77 per cent. is due to British shipping.

15. Emigration,

which forms an important item in the shipping trade of this Colony, shows an increase of 51 per cent. over the previous year. Queensland alone took 8,325 emigrants, and there is every prospect of a steady increase.

Police.

HONG KONG.

16. The police force, composed of Europeans, Sikhs, and Chinese, continues to maintain its high character for efficiency, and the introduction of Chinese as a component part of it has proved eminently successful.

17. The hospital is conducted as well as it can be in a temporary and unsuitable building, pending the erection of a new one.

18. The general health of the Colony has been good, and that of the troops especially so.

General Remarks.

19. A vast amount of material improvement has been effected during the year.

Sanitary improvements have been progressing.

The drainage and sewage have, at considerable cost, been cleansed, flushed, and improved; new drains constructed, and many which had been choked and stagnant for years put into working order, resulting in the improved health of the whole community.

20. A large extent of road and streets have been re-made, and side channels to carry off the floods of rain constructed.

Many miles of mountain path have been made.

21. The public gardens have been enlarged and improved, and will now compare favourably with any place of recreation in the East.

22. Trees have been extensively planted on the hitherto barren waste lands.

23. Justice is firmly and fairly administered.

The Chinese population are docile and orderly, having full confidence in the impartial administration of the laws.

24. The Colony is well served by its public officers, and I could not report of its condition and progress in the satisfactory manner I now do, if I had not received their efficient and cordial support.

I have, &c.

(Signed) A. E. KENNEDY,
The Right Hon. the Earl of Carnarvon, Governor.
&c. &c.

No. 41.

GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.

The following Annual Report on the state of the Government Schools in Hong Kong for the year 1875, is published for general information.

By Command,

J. GARDINER AUSTIN,
Colonial Secretary's Office, Hong Kong, Colonial Secretary
February 9, 1876.

HONG KONG. SIR,

Hong Kong, February 5, 1876.

I HAVE the honour to forward to you the Blue Book Returns and the Annual Report on Education for 1875.

2. The number of scholars attending schools subject to Government supervision was 2,606. This is an advance over 1874, but as it amounts only to about 2 per cent., it is not so marked as in some previous years. This is partly accounted for by the fact that no addition was made to the number of schools. There was also a falling off, amounting to $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent., in the native schools which are supported by Government. The causes of this will appear when the state of certain of these is taken into consideration. In all other cases there was an increase; and the total deficiency, taking all the Government schools together, amounts to only *four* scholars, that is, 1,927 as against 1,931.

3. Any deficiency in actual numbers was more than compensated for by the regularity of the attendance, the minimum in this respect being much higher than in previous years. The tables appended to this Report give the fullest particulars under this heading, and a reference to them will prevent the necessity of entering on a series of tedious details. They have been compiled with the view of supplying all the information about the schools which was thought likely to be desired.

4. The native schools supported by Government are 16 in number, and were attended by 1,016 scholars, being a decrease of 38 as compared with the previous years. This was owing to a change of four of the masters, one being dismissed, one permitted to resign, and two having to retire on account of bad health. To supply three of the vacancies, a public examination of candidates was held early in the year. Upwards of 30 masters presented themselves, and the three best got the appointments.

5. The one who was appointed to Tang-lung Chau failed to attract scholars to the school. It was, in fact, almost deserted, there being sometimes only half a dozen present. This was not owing to any fault of the master's, but simply because the people in the neighbourhood had their own ideas as to his qualifications for teaching their children. This is a feature in connexion with these schools which often manifests itself. All the trouble taken to get a good master is often labour in vain; and the more ignorant the people are, the more unwavering is their faith in their own competence to decide on the new man's fitness or unfitness. In the present case, the master's health failed towards the end of the year, and he had to resign. His successor, although considerably his inferior, is yet doing what he failed to do. He is attracting scholars to the school, and there will soon be as many as could be expected in this once populous but now very sparsely inhabited locality.

6. Twelve years ago, the two schools at this place were very flourishing, but event after event occurred to withdraw the people elsewhere. Two large fires dealt the first blow. Then, the boat people were relegated to Causeway Bay; and now the houses in

the Bazaar are nearly all untenanted. The school children come principally from the various clusters of houses which lie scattered between Wán-tsai Gap and the temple at Tang-lung Chau. The boat people have never forgiven their being sent from their former rendezvous, and they show their resentment by depriving us of the opportunity of educating their children. Incredible as it sounds, many of the people think they are conferring a favour on the Government by allowing their children to attend the schools.

7. In the case of Tái Wong Kung, the master who was dismissed contrived to elicit a good deal of sympathy from the parents of the scholars,—another remarkable feature, for the man was guilty of the grossest misconduct, and nobody dreamt of saying otherwise. Still, he was a good master, they said, and they wanted him continued. This could not be thought of, and the result is that they too are displaying a little resentment; but, in this case, it is likely to be short lived, as the superiority of the present master is beyond all cavil.

8. The appointment to the school in Battery Road was successful in every way, and was so from the first, although it was feared that there would be a falling off at the start, so difficult is it to calculate beforehand what will be the effect of a change of master.

9. The fourth vacancy occurred at Wán-tsai. The master, who lived in a perpetual dread of robbers, could never be prevailed upon to open the windows of his own quarters, and, as soon as school was dismissed, the whole premises were religiously shut up and barricaded. The consequence was that his health gave way, and the school suffered much in consequence. He retired in April. His place has been taken by a master who is rapidly recovering the ground which was lost, and who will soon make the Wán-tsai school what he previously made the one at Stanley, the best of the class to which it belongs. The taste, too, which he is displaying in cultivating the ground within the school enclosure is worthy of all commendation. From being a place which one was almost ashamed of, it has become the pride and the talk of the neighbourhood.

10. The school at Aberdeen, in addition to its other difficulties, the iteration of which is unnecessary, had this time to contend with sickness. The master had repeated attacks of fever, and it took much persuasion to induce him to return, after his last and very serious illness. The village, in spite of all that has been done to it, is little better than a swamp. The exhalations which arise from the heated mud, in breezeless summers like the last, can only produce one result. Sickness interfered much also with the school at Sháu-kí Wán. The building had an unenviable notoriety while it was occupied by the police, but, until last year, there had been no cause for complaint since it became a school-house. It stands on the highest ground in the village, and is admirably ventilated; but in front there is a long stretch of muddy beach at low water, from which miasma cannot fail to exude under a broiling sun: A denser vegetation, both here and at Aberdeen, would go far to counteract these evil influences.

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11. In addition to geography introduced into all the schools in 1873, the first three books of the School Book Committee's series came into use last year, with highly satisfactory results. The new subjects were, as a rule, well taught, without any injury to the ordinary Chinese lessons. Arithmetic, which was referred to last year, was not adopted for two reasons; first, because time could not be found for the compilation of a suitable Chinese text book; and, secondly, because even if it had been ready, there was sufficient innovation for one year without it. It will not be lost sight of, and when opportunity offers, it also will find its appropriate place in the schools.

12. The other native schools, 13 in number and principally on the Kowloon side, which receive a monthly contribution towards the masters' salaries, remain very much as they were. The number of scholars was greater than in 1874, and the attendance was very much more regular. The new books just spoken of are gradually making way among them too; and five or six years hence perhaps, with patience and perseverance, these schools may do for the outlying places in which they are situated what the Government schools, ordinarily so called, are doing in more favoured localities.

13. In spite of defective accommodation and other drawbacks, the Central School is steadily progressing. The total number under tuition was 556, and the average daily attendance for the year was 379. The corresponding numbers for 1874 were 528 and 347 respectively. Taking month by month, the average number on the books was 411, as against 369 for the previous year.

14. Nothing occurred during the year which requires any special mention. The school, as regards both masters and scholars, was wonderfully exempt from sickness and other causes of absence. There was consequently the less to interfere with the even tenor of daily duty. Scarcely any year has been so favourable to the school in this respect as 1875.

15. Remarks on this school might have ended here but for the discussion which educational matters have lately elicited. It will, therefore, not be out of place to give some idea of what the school is doing. This can be best tested by the examinations, but this Report would be overloaded with documents, if all the examination papers and the results connected with nine English and five Chinese classes were incorporated in it. A selection must therefore be made, and this will be found in the second appendix, which contains the papers set to the first class, and the marks in each subject gained by every scholar in it. The names only are omitted.

16. The examination papers and the results lie on the table of the examination hall, and are open to inspection at all times. The written answers given by the first class are also preserved for 12 months, and are equally open to the public for perusal. The examinations, which are a very laborious work, occupy from eight to ten days, at the rate of two papers to each class a day. They are conducted by the masters in committee. The result more

than counterbalances the exertion required, because we are able to fix exactly the status of each boy in the school in every subject which he has been taught during the year.

17. The subjects of examination comprise the whole work of the year. This is often attended with inconvenience, on account of the frequent promotions which have to be made as vacancies occur. It is hard on a boy to be examined on the work of a class in which he has been for only a few months, but this difficulty cannot be overcome, until the school's great drawback, short attendance, has been removed.

18. This, in most instances, accounts for the comparatively small number of marks gained by boys towards the end of each list. It not infrequently happens that a boy, who would have been among the first in his old class, is among the last in his new one; but in such cases, promotion has to be taken as a prize, and this practically overcomes the difficulty, for the boys think a great deal of promotion to a higher class.

19. The masters, too, would be glad of more permanence in the classes, in order to give a fair test of what they had done during the year. In the higher branches especially, chemistry and algebra for instance, it often happens, at the end of the year, that two thirds of the scholars in the class were not in it when the course of lessons was commenced. This is very discouraging, but it will work its own cure by and by. In the meantime, we must be content to make the best of things as they are. This, indeed, has been the guiding principle in everything connected with this and the other schools. Preconceived notions formed elsewhere cannot be bodily transplanted here; and there will be unfailing disappointment, if the circumstances in which the school-master finds himself are not allowed to make those modifications of action and of opinion which they unceasingly call for. This does not imply a surrender to circumstances, nor is it inconsistent with a high aim and a steady endeavour towards it.

20. The Chinese class for Europeans and other nationalities except Chinese is now beginning to give very satisfactory results. Several of the papers were remarkably well done, and in the case of the first prizeman, the translation into Chinese was given in the Chinese character throughout. This is the first time since the establishment of the class that any such progress has been reached. The class consisted, at the time of examination, of 50 scholars, and the average for the year was 59. These are divided into three sections. The master received his training at the Central School. The class is examined weekly by three of the English masters, an arrangement which could not fail to secure attention on the part of both master and scholars.

21. It were much to be wished that the school hours could be shortened. They would be long in any climate, and they are especially so here. This point has had much anxious consideration for many years, but it is not possible to make the day shorter than eight hours, without seriously interfering with the progress

HONG KONG. of the school. Were there but one language to be taught, half the time would be ample, but with two, the case is different. The aim is to put both languages, English and Chinese, on a footing of perfect equality, as far as that is possible, and not sacrifice the one to the other. At first, the Chinese would have been glad to throw their own language overboard, but this could not be listened to. The result would have tended to denationalization and the production of a tribe of smatterers utterly useless for interpretation, or, for that matter, for anything else. It took much persistence for many years to overcome this reluctance to learning Chinese, but such a thing is never heard of now. Every scholar in the school, one or two of the youngest excepted, has his four hours a day at English and four at Chinese.

22. One very important matter calls for special attention, and that is the separation of the offices of Head Master and Inspector of Schools. It has become impossible for one man to discharge efficiently the duties of both. The Head Master of a school of upwards of 400 boys has quite enough to occupy his time and attention within his own domain. The present plan of conjoining the offices tells especially against the school towards the close of the year, when every master should be occupied with the work of revision, in preparation for the forthcoming examinations. Last year, the Head Master did not teach an hour during the month of December, from having then to attend to his other duties as Inspector of Schools. In this other sphere, also, there is now ample scope for one man's energies. We have reached a period when the dogged conservatism of the past is melting away. The masters show a disposition to follow where they are led; but this implies the devotion of much time and attention on the part of their leader.

23. There is, it is to be hoped, no necessity for re-stating the case against the suitability of the present building. All that can be said on this point has been said already, and the increased attendance now reported on gives no excuse for modifying a single expression made use of last year; but, since then, the first instalment of the cost has been placed on the Estimates, which implies that it will not be necessary to refer to the matter much longer.

24. The grant-in-aid schools are still nine in number. The manager of the Baxter schools opened a new one in T'ái-p'ing Shán, but the average attendance not reaching the required point, it and the Sai Ying-p'ün school were grouped together and examined accordingly.

25. The Basel Mission Girls' School did more than sustain its previous reputation. Forty-five scholars were examined, and although eight of these failed, it has to be remembered that all the six standards were taken, and consequently a greater range of subjects was included. In reading, writing (from dictation), geography, and history remarkable proficiency was displayed. Arithmetic was weak, as compared with these; but when one

thinks of Chinese girls working sums as far on as vulgar and decimal fractions, the result reached is highly creditable. It would be fortunate for the Colony, if it had more schools of this description. Memory is not cultivated in this school at the expense of the other faculties. The girls are taught intelligently on approved methods, and they show the effects of it in the intelligent way in which they do all their work.

26. The three Baxter schools sent up 72 girls for examination, of whom 59 passed. The highest standard taken was the fifth. These schools are ranked in Class I., which comprises those in which a Chinese education is given. The manager is anxious to have them in the same class as the Basel Mission School, where a European education is given in the Chinese language, and no doubt he will soon be able to have them there. The great obstacle at present is the want of qualified teachers, and the increased expenditure which a change would involve. In the meantime, it is a question deserving his best attention whether it would not be better to concentrate his efforts rather than extend them. One good school in Class III. would be worth half a dozen in Class I., as regards both the religious and secular portions of the education ; and he has the means of accomplishing that. This, however, is merely a suggestion, and may be taken by him for what it is worth.

27. The London Mission School at Wán-tsai continues to maintain its high position. The master does his work very thoroughly. Out of 50 scholars presented only six failed. In reading, writing (from dictation), composition, and geography, the school is very strong ; and from the accuracy with which the boys explained what they had read, a high estimate could be formed of the master's carefulness and ability. The T'ái-p'ing Shán school was very unfortunate. At the end of the first six months, the teacher had to be dismissed for neglect of duty. It would be wrong, therefore, to attribute the great falling off to the present master. Of the 47 scholars presented 18 failed. In spite of this, there were sufficient indications of the present teacher's ability to lead to the belief that this year there will be a very different state of affairs. Great and much needed improvements were made in the two schoolrooms in the beginning of last year, but the sanitary arrangements still require the manager's best attention, and modern desks and forms should replace, as soon as possible, the Chinese tables, which occupy by far too much of the present limited space.

28. It is very difficult to define the exact position of St. Saviour's day school. In consequence of a complete change in the management, a request to have the school examined in the middle of November, instead of at the usual time, was complied with on certain conditions. In consequence of this, the school was deprived of more than a month of its most valuable time. The results now to be stated must, therefore, be viewed in the light of this explanation. Of the 54 scholars found eligible for examination, 33 passed and 21 failed, and of the 33 who passed, 15 had to depend for their

HONG KONG. success on their handwriting, which under certain circumstances is allowed to count as one of the subjects of a standard. The school took in all the six standards, but only two scholars were examined in the fifth and one in the sixth. The reading was very good, geography was good, grammar was fair, writing (from dictation) was weak, and arithmetic was very weak indeed. It is but justice to the late teacher to add that the partial assistance which he received, necessitated his teaching the arithmetic of five of the standards himself, and that a week before the examination one of his assistants was withdrawn.

29. It is gratifying to be able to report that St. Stephen's church school, which was reported on so unfavourably last year, has succeeded in more than regaining its original position. The new master had grasped the grant-in-aid scheme fully, as is proved by the fact that out of 49 who were presented only four failed. In two subjects only, writing (from dictation) and composition, was the school inferior to the London Mission School at Wán-tsai. In all other respects St. Stephen's holds at present the first place among the schools of its own class.

30. Victoria Boys' School, which is the only undenominational school in receipt of a grant-in-aid, presented 29 scholars for examination in the first four standards. There were 11 failures. The school belongs to the same class as St. Saviour's, namely, Class IV. (schools in which a European education is given in any European language); and of the two, it holds the higher place in all respects, with the single exception of reading. The weakest point in the school is arithmetic, to which the attention of all concerned is specially requested. The sums given at these examinations are exceedingly simple, being intended 'to test the scholars' knowledge of the science rather than their accuracy in the manipulation of an array of figures.

31. Looking simply at the per-cent of scholars who passed, these nine schools may be thus arranged:—

1. St. Stephen's Church School	-	-	92 per cent.
2. London Mission School (Wán-tsai)	-	88	"
3. Baxter School (T'ái-p'ing Shán)	-	86	"
4. Baxter School (Sai Ying-p'ún)	-	83	"
5. Basel Mission Girls' School	-	82	"
6. Baxter School (Staunton Street)	-	77	"
7. St. Saviour's Day School	-	62	"
8. Victoria Boys' School	-	62	"
9. London Mission School (T'ái-p'ing Shán)	-	62	"

Taking all the 346 scholars sent up by these schools, 265 passed and 81 failed. In other words, the total per-cent of passes amounted to 77 per cent. This has reference solely to passes in the standards. The per-cent of passes in the various subjects taught in these schools will be found in Table XI, where the basis of a just comparison of the merits of the schools may be obtained. Managers will do well to give it their best considera-

tion, as by it they will be able to know the direction in which their strong and their weak points lie. HONG KONG.

32. The last subject for consideration is the School Book Committee's series. Four books have now been completed, namely, the Primer, and Books I., II., and III. of the series. The Committee, without dissolving, intend to pause here for the present, until the test of actual experience has been fairly applied. It is highly probable that a second edition of the books already published will be prepared before new ground is broken. In addition to reading books, manuals of arithmetic, geography, and history are very much wanted, but as these require greater unity of design it is necessary that they should be compiled by individual members rather than by each member of the Committee contributing his quota; and this involves a greater expenditure of time than any member can at present possibly devote to such a purpose.

I have, &c.

(Signed) FREDERICK STEWART,
The Hon. J. Gardiner Austin, Inspector of Schools.
Colonial Secretary, Hong Kong.

No. 59.

GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.

The following Report of the Harbour-master, with returns annexed, for the year 1875, is published for general information.

By Command,
(Signed) J. GARDINER AUSTIN,
Colonial Secretary's Office, Colonial Secretary.
Hong Kong, March 17, 1876.

Harbour Department, Hong Kong,
Sir, February 15, 1876.

I HAVE the honour to forward the Annual Returns of this Department connected with the trade, &c. of the Colony for the year ending the 31st December 1875.

Shipping.

2. The grand total of all vessels, foreign and Chinese, arriving in Hong Kong during the year under review, has been 587 vessels, and 412,672 registered tons in excess of the arrivals in 1874. This is a more satisfactory condition of things than I was able to give in my last Annual Report, which showed a large falling off of tonnage as compared with the year 1873. This increase of vessels includes the junk trade, but as that trade will be dealt with under its proper heading, the remarks under the head shipping will refer only to cargoes carried in European and American built vessels, including the trade in such vessels as are owned by the Chinese Merchants' Company.

3. Of the arrivals at this port in European and American built ships, steam as well as sailing, there is a total increase of 418

HONG KONG. vessels, and 412,509 tons. Of this increase, 68·65 per cent. of vessels and 76·6 per cent. of tons is due to vessels under the British flag; 11 per cent. of vessels, and 8 per cent. of tons to vessels under the French flag; 6·18 per cent. of vessels and 5·82 per cent. of tons to vessels under the Chinese flag; 6 per cent. of vessels and 4 per cent. of tons to vessels under the German flag; the remaining increase is distributed in small proportions over the vessels of other nations.

4. Although the numbers of vessels have largely increased, the grand total of increase in tonnage is but slightly more than the total increase of tonnage in foreign bottoms only. This is caused by the reduced sizes of the junks which now frequent the Colony.

5. The tonnage in vessels under the United States flag, although showing a decrease on what it was in 1874, is not really so in fact. Before light dues were collected, the gross tonnage of the Pacific Mail Company's ships were included in the returns, but since April last these ships have the measurements of engine room spaces, &c. deducted, bringing them on the same footing as vessels of other nations with regard to their light dues, and this reduced tonnage is inserted in the present returns.

6. The only sensible decrease is in vessels under the Peruvian and Siamese flags, there having been 15 fewer vessels in the former instance and 19 fewer vessels in the latter instance arrived in 1875, than entered the Colony in 1874.

7. Of the countries whence the vessels included in this return have arrived, there have been entered 26 vessels having a tonnage of 19,394 tons more from the Australasian colonies than came here in 1874. The trade between this and the coast of China and Formosa has largely increased, 188,874 tons having been entered in 1875, more than was the case in the previous year; and, it may reasonably be expected that the intended opening of the port of Hoi How in Hainan will lead to a still further increase. The trade with Cochin China has improved to the extent 98,563 tons. With the continent of Europe trade has slightly improved, while that with Great Britain shows an increase of 35,891 tons. The trade with Siam has increased by 50 vessels, and 38,034 tons, the increase being conveyed in vessels other than Siamese. With regard to the trade between this and India, there is a decrease of 13,647 tons.

8. The trade with the Australasian colonies has much improved since the steamers of the Eastern and Australian Mail Steamship Company have regularly established their line, and these have been largely supplemented by occasional vessels leaving this for Cooktown in the northern extreme of Queensland. This trade, hitherto conducted by sailing vessels, will soon be wholly in the hands of steamship owners, the navigation of the passages to and from Australia not offering many impediments to their safety.

9. Of the 3,562,774 tons of shipping entered in the books of this office during the year, 45·2 per cent. arrived in junks, 43·7 per cent. in steamers, and 11·1 per cent. in European and American built sailing vessels.

10. Excluding the junk trade, it will be found that 1,951,855 tons of registered shipping arrived in vessels other than Chinese built, 79.84 per cent. of which was brought by steam vessels, and the remaining 20.16 per cent. by sailing vessels of all nations. Of this large percentage of steam over sailing ships, 77.77 per cent. is due to British shipping, 9.60 per cent. to French, 3.81 per cent. to German, and the remainder to vessels under other flags.

11. Large as the proportion of steam shipping is over sailing shipping, it is much greater in fact, as the steamships of the present day carry so much more weight than their registered tonnage gives them credit for; while sailing vessels do not carry much cargo over and above their registered tonnage.

12. On the 16th April 1875, the light on Cape d'Aguilar was first lit; it is a first order light, and was seen from the deck of H.M.S. "Hornet" at a distance of 23 miles. Through the kindness of Commodore Parish, R.N., the Surveyor-General and the officers of this Department were enabled to verify the distances at which Cape d'Aguilar and also Green Island lights could be seen; the latter is a fourth order light and was distinctly seen at a distance of 11 miles. Many captains have testified to the value of the two lights, and when Cape Collinson light is exhibited, which it will be shortly, the approaches to Hong Kong will be distinguishable at all hours and in all weather. Cape Collinson would have been lit long since, but that through some mismanagement a part of the apparatus was sent to the Cape of Good Hope.

13. It is satisfactory to report that but one typhoon (southeastern edge) passed near the Colony in 1875. This was on the 31st May last, and from the sheltered position of the harbour very little damage was done afloat. Macao and the Canton River felt the full force of the storm, and there is one sad shipwreck, that of the "Poyang," to record, with the loss of many lives near Macao.

Junk Trade.

14. There is an increase in the numbers of junks frequenting the port from places on the coast, but there is a decrease on the tonnage, showing that a smaller kind of craft is being used. The junk trade with Macao has decreased by 22,889 tons and 103 vessels. Probably a goodly proportion of the cargoes that would otherwise have been conveyed in native vessels has found its way here in the daily steamers. Macao suffered from two typhoons in two successive years, losing a large number of junks, which have not been and probably never will be replaced.

15. Applications have been made to run steam launches between this place and Namtao, a city on the left or east bank of the Canton River about 27 miles from Hong Kong. Although the proposal has been prominently brought to the notice of the Chinese authorities, as yet permission to run a foreign built boat into a non-consular port has not been granted.

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Emigration.

16. There has been an increase of 51 per cent. in the emigration of Chinese from Hong Kong in 1875 over 1874. The discovery of gold in the north of Queensland has led to a large emigration of Chinese to Cooktown, 8,325 persons having gone to that newly established port.

17. There has also been an increase during the year of 5,535 Chinese to the Straits Settlements and of 3,180 Chinese to California.

18. Many of the Chinese who left for Cooktown have returned, some of them disconcerted with the hardships which usually accompany the gold digger; while others have come back having been successful, and, as the voyage is an easy and a quick one, they have come to spend their new year holiday in their native country.

19. It is impossible to say how much gold has been brought from Cooktown, as the Chinese keep the gold in their own possession rather than place it in the hands of the captain and pay a small freight for its security.

20. During a short visit that I paid to Victoria, New South Wales, and Queensland, during the last summer, I was greatly interested in ascertaining how much or how little Chinese had gained by emigrating. In Melbourne and Sydney, every one admitted the persevering industry and sobriety of the Chinese, and the general cry was for Chinese labour, but no one seemed disposed to import it. Trades unionism amongst the European artizans and servants tends in a great measure to keep Chinese labour out of the field.

21. I observed but few Chinese employed in conjunction with Europeans. Chinese were chiefly working on their own account, keeping shops, cultivating and selling vegetables; and in the towns they appeared to thrive and make money.

22. A visit to Ballarat, Creswick, Clunes, and their neighbouring gold fields, enabled me to see the patience of the Chinese to its fullest extent. I found these people working in gangs of four or five, digging, washing, all at hard solid labour, working while it was daylight and having nothing but the most miserable hut, neither wind nor water-tight, to retire to for the night. The earnings of these men averaged about 3*l.* sterling a month each. The fields on which they are allowed to seek for gold have generally been worked over twice or three times and have ultimately been deserted by European diggers, and it is the latter's refuse that Chinese are content to take. Chinese would be much better paid, housed, and fed as farm labourers, but many of them seemed to prefer the chance of finding something good and becoming rich more quickly than a labourer's savings will permit of.

23. In newly discovered gold fields, a greater amount of success attends the digger's labour, but even there the Chinaman is not allowed to come near when the European thinks he will

get gold. The Chinaman's secret of success is patience and perseverance combined with the strictest sobriety. Cooktown, which has sprung into existence since the discovery of gold in its neighbourhood, is still a town of wood and canvas. Here the Chinaman is seen to great perfection. He owns some of the principal shops in the place, and by his attention to business, and care of his money when he has made it, he is amongst the most wealthy in the place. Chinese in North Queensland have many greater advantages than Europeans. The climate is better adapted to the former than to the latter, and they can work throughout the year, while Europeans are unable to do so.

24. Female emigration to Penang and Singapore has increased by 110·69 per cent., and out of 15,158 Chinese despatched hence to the Straits Settlements, nearly 14 per cent. were females.

25. Out of 19,168 emigrants to California, scarcely 2 per cent. are females. There are varied opinions as to whether the partial prohibition placed on the importation of Chinese females into the United States is a politic one. Doubtless the influx of a large number of unmarried women into a country is likely to be attended by highly immoral results, but with people having an intimate knowledge of the Chinese character, it is a question whether it is not better not to disturb female emigration than to prohibit it, the result of the latter being much more horrible and disgusting than one likes to dwell on.

Registry of Shipping.

26. The usual average work has been done in this branch of the Department. The British Registry of Shipping at Shanghai has not been sufficiently long established to affect the registry of ships here.

Marine Magistrate's Court.

27. There is an increase on the cases tried in this court in 1875 over 1874. None of the cases were of a serious nature.

Examinations for the posts of Masters and Mates, under Ordinance No. 17 of 1860.

28. Of 59 applicants for examination, 64·5 per cent. obtained certificates, 35·5 per cent. being unsuccessful.

Marine Courts, under Ordinance No. 11 of 1860.

29. There have been five courts held during the year. The "Viking," official number 71,662, grounded on the Bombay shoal in the China Sea, was got off, and came to Hong Kong. The "Poyang," official number 50,661, lost during a typhoon near Macao, in May last. The "Zambesi," official number 68,413, in collision with a junk. The "Deerhound," official number 60,508, lost in the China Sea, in latitude 10° 41' North and longitude 114° 30' East. The "Sunda," official number 54,737, struck a sunken rock about a mile and a half North of Turnabout Island

HONG KONG, and was beached at Station Island, Haitan Strait. The "Sunda" was ultimately brought to Hong Kong.

Seamen.

30. 6,654 seamen were shipped, and 6,741 were discharged in 1875, being an excess of 13·1 per cent. in the first and 14·2 per cent. in the latter instance, of the shipping and discharging of seamen in 1874.

I have, &c.

The Hon. J. Gardiner Austin, H. G. THOMSETT, R.N.,
Colonial Secretary, Harbour-master, &c.
Hong Kong.

No. 32.

GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.

The following report from the Captain Superintendent of Police for the year 1875, is published for general information.

By Command,

J. GARDINER AUSTIN,
Colonial Secretary's Office, Hong Kong, Colonial Secretary.

February 5, 1876.

SIR, Victoria, Hong Kong, January 18, 1876.

I HAVE the honour to forward, for the information of his Excellency the Governor, the annual police report, statistics for the Blue Book, and returns of crime for the year 1875.

2. A decrease of crime to the extent of 4·89 per cent. is shown on all cases reported; an increase of 19·74 per cent. on serious crime, and a diminution of 11·11 per cent. on minor offences.

3. Two cases of murder occurred, for one of which, at Ap-li-chau, a Chinaman was sentenced to death, but this penalty was commuted to penal servitude for life. The second case was of a most aggravated nature, as there is every reason to suppose that the victim was murdered from motives of vengeance for the previous conviction for another offence of the supposed murderer, but that in the darkness of the night a woman other than the one intended was killed. A Chinaman was apprehended within a few hours after the deed had been committed, but from the peculiar circumstances of the attack, there was no substantial evidence against him beyond a conversation between himself and a prisoner in the gaol; it was decided to abandon the prosecution.

4. An atrocious case of piracy, in which 25 Chinese lost their lives, happened about 50 miles from the Colony. One man was arrested and executed, who had been charged in 1874 with supposed complicity in the piracy on board the "Spark"; two other men were sentenced to death, but were afterwards pardoned, and

three persons were convicted of felonious possession of some of HONG KONG.
the pirated goods.

5. There has been an increase of serious crimes as compared with 1874, but the offences, as a rule, were not of an aggravated nature; the amount of property stolen being, in the majority of cases of larceny, or burglary, or of larceny in a dwelling-house, of comparatively small value. It is to be observed that the returns always include attempts at various offences as well as cases that subsequently prove to be false.

6. Larcenies of articles on board ship were frequent during the year, but it is hoped that the arrest for this offence of one man who had been previously convicted about six times, and who had been deported, and also of a gang of five men, will diminish this class of offence.

7. The number of arrests of men who have been deported or released on conditional pardon is large, no less than 16 men having been recaptured. (Table E.)

A Commission is now considering the question of punishments, &c. in the gaol, and it is to be hoped that their inquiries may result in the recommendation of some system that may render that establishment more disagreeable to ex-convicts, than it appears to have been from the experience of past years. The fact that the number of prisoners sentenced to imprisonment at the magistracy shows a proportion of two old offenders to three persons arrested on the first known charge, demonstrates the desirability of making imprisonment more deterrent.

Police.

8. I regret that the health of the police has not been at all satisfactory during the year under consideration. The admissions into hospital from August to November inclusive averaged 53 a month, or nearly 12 per cent. of the force. I had further to regret the death of Inspector Stroud, a promising officer, who fell dead when on patrol. The service also lost 14 other men.

9. The acting colonial surgeon visited the stations with the object of discovering, if possible, any local reasons for the large number of cases of fever; but the stations were all clean and in good order, and the water appeared, as a rule, to be good; moreover, of late years filters have been freely supplied. At Causeway Bay, notice was served on squatters to vacate garden plots near the station, as the water supply was probably contaminated by drainage from the gardens.

10. At Aberdeen it is very essential that the waste ground near the bridge below the station should be filled up, as the foul mud collected there must, especially at low tide, generate disease. If, too, instructions are given to clear away the undergrowth among the trees near the station, I think that under the able supervision of the superintendent of Government gardens, the health of the men and the appearance of the grounds would be improved.

HONG KONG.

11. I may mention that efforts are being made to rear the Eucalyptus tree, so that trees of this species may be planted near the stations, but it is feared that their want of strength during their first two or three years of growth will prevent any extensive use being made of them.

12. Notable benefit has arisen from the erection of the new station at Shau-ki Wán. The old building was located among the trees on the hill side, and the cases of fever among the men were both numerous and fatal; but now Shau-ki Wán compares favourably with other stations in villages.

13. Since the Yau-ma-ti station has been built, the village has nearly doubled in size, and crime has greatly diminished. The Tsim-tsa-tsui station has again become useful, owing to the numerous bungalows that have been erected in its vicinity.

14. The city of Victoria has increased so much to the westward that the accommodation at No. 7 station is far below the wants of the men. The Lokungs are crowded in a room that is little better than a barn.

15. The want of better accommodation at the central barracks has been so often reported upon that it is needless to do more than merely to allude to it in this report.

16. In forwarding the draft police estimates for 1876, I attached a memorandum in which I drew attention to the low value of the dollar as compared with the rate at which the men are paid. This appears to press with great hardship on the men who joined from England and Scotland, as they were engaged at the pay of 40 $\frac{1}{2}$ a month, which they were told, and at the time with strict truth, was equivalent to 100*l.* a year. The lowness of exchange now causes a loss of between 4 and 5 per cent. on all moneys that they may desire to remit home. I think, therefore, that the men merit some compensation on this point.

17. The conduct of the force has been, on the whole, very satisfactory, and the number of men leaving, compulsorily or otherwise, less than in 1874.

I have, &c.

The Hon. Gardiner Austin,
Colonial Secretary,
Hong Kong.

W. M. DEANE,
Captain Superintendent of
Police.

SIR,

Government Civil Hospital,

Hong Kong, March 15, 1876.

I HAVE the honour to forward my Annual Report for the year 1875 concerning the health of the Colony and the working of the different establishments under my supervision.

In the past year a number of improvements have been made in the sanitary arrangements of the town, but I have little to add to the information I gave the Government in my last year's Report, and regret to say that things remain in much the same condition as I then described.

I have to thank the officers of the different departments for the HONG KONG information requisite for making up the enclosed returns.

Police.

The health of the force has not been so good as last year, there having been nearly a hundred more admissions to hospital than in 1874. The principal causes of sickness were intermittent fever and diarrhoea, and most of the cases came from the out-stations, principally Aberdeen. Reports have been made concerning the sanitary condition of this station by Dr. Wharry and the Registrar-General. The mortality also has been greater, but this admits of some explanation; there were nine deaths in hospital, of these, two occurred on the 1st and 2nd of January, and had been some time in hospital in 1874. Of the other five deaths, four took place during absence on leave, and one was a case of sudden death on parade from disease of the heart; so that the increase of deaths cannot be attributed to the unhealthiness of the Colony.

The amount of sickness entails loss of service and extra expense to Government, and might be reduced by better sanitary arrangements in some of the out-stations, especially Aberdeen. In some of the cases admitted last year, there is no doubt the men have become more or less permanently debilitated, and the mortality of one year must be reckoned as partly owing to disease contracted in previous years. The Indians, as usual, suffer most, and next to them the Europeans in proportion to their numbers, the mortality being greatest among the Indians.

A reference to Tables I. and II. will show the rate of mortality and sickness among the Europeans, Indians, and Chinese composing the force in each month of the year.

Table E. shows the number of the police admitted into hospital for venereal disease, which is 18, as compared with 21 in 1874, and 59 in 1873. Of these 18, eight were cases of syphilis, chiefly of a mild type.

Troops.

Table III. gives the strength, sickness, and mortality of the troops stationed in Hong Kong in 1875. The admissions to hospital in 1875 was 716, as compared with 1,067 in 1874, and 1,446 in 1873. That is to say, that the number admitted to hospital was less in 1875 by 351 than in 1874, and less 730 than in 1873, which year was a considerable improvement on former years. Probably this great decrease in sickness is due to the great improvements in the drainage of the barracks that have been made in the last year or so, and to better sanitary arrangements.

The mortality is 9, as compared with 10 in 1874, and 12 in 1873, so that the great and steady increase in the general health of the troops must be considered very satisfactory indeed.

HONG KONG. — There has been a slight increase of venereal disease among the troops, the number admitted to hospital being 71 as compared with 65 in 1874, but in 1873 the number was 223, and greater in previous years, so that even in this respect the health of the troops may be said to be very good.

Government Civil Hospital.

The building at present used as a hospital has done fairly well as a makeshift up to this time, but it is very defective in its accommodation and sanitary arrangements.

The latrine arrangements are as bad as they can be for a hospital, and admit of no improvements in the present building. There are no yards or open ground attached to the building, which is in the heart of the town, and, as a consequence, the ventilation is very defective, especially in the lower stories. Windows that would otherwise be kept open in hot weather have to be kept closed, and the light obstructed by their being painted to prevent annoyance to the neighbours, and these, as all must acknowledge, are serious evils to the well being of a hospital.

As it is, the working of the establishment has been as good as it can be under the careful superintendence of Dr. Wharry, who has had much extra trouble during the past year.

The number of admissions to the hospital has greatly increased, being 1,010, as compared with 829 in 1874; of these cases, ten were moribund when brought in. Exclusive of police, the number of admissions was 564, as compared with 431 in 1874; this number represents seamen, destitutes, and paying patients.

Table IV. shows the varieties of disease. The mortality was chiefly owing to diseases of the lungs, fever, and accidents. There were no deaths from typhoid fever, and only four cases admitted, three of which came from up the coast; none were brought in from the brothels. Only five cases of small-pox admitted, these were seamen, European and coloured.

The coloured destitutes, as usual, form a large proportion of the mortality, three of the deaths among them being from absolute privation.

Table V. shows the rate of mortality in the Government Civil Hospital for the last ten years, and that in this respect this year is the best of the ten.

Table VI. shows the admissions and mortality of each month of the year.

Table VII. shows the number of dead bodies brought in for examination in the different months. European, coloured, and Chinese, the total is 92, as compared with 150 in 1874.

The amount paid into the Treasury on account of paying patients was :—

1875	-	-	-	\$4,882.66
1874	-	-	-	3,036.73
1873	-	-	-	2,440.08

showing a steady increase of the paying patients with the increased accommodation afforded. The amount paid into the Treasury by the Board of Trade for sick seamen was £1,986, and in addition to these receipts, must be calculated the hospital stoppages for the police, which are paid into the Treasury by that department.

HONG KONG.

The increase of patients and receipts, and the decrease in mortality, speaks well for the working of this establishment, and in this year's Report I speak of it from experience as an inmate for six weeks and in superintendence of it for nearly three months with satisfaction.

Tung Wah Hospital.

Of this hospital what has been said in previous Reports might be said over again. The number of persons admitted in 1875 was 882, of whom 480 died. This large mortality of over 50 per cent. being accounted for by the patients coming in the last stage of disease, very often moribund when brought in. From this it appears to me that the faith of the Chinese in the hospital does not increase. The number of out-patients who attended was 45,685. The great good done by this hospital is vaccination; 1,159 were vaccinated in it last year, and during the year there has been no case of small-pox reported among the Chinese; this disease has been declining yearly in Hong Kong, and the vaccination done in this hospital must have the credit of it.

Victoria Gaol.

Table VIII. shows the actual number of cases treated in the gaol hospital.

Table IX. shows the number of prisoners treated in their cells. Two deaths are recorded, both cases diseased before the patients came into gaol. The principal causes of sickness are diseases of the lungs, fever, dysentery, diarrhoea, and old sores. The average number of men seen by me daily is between 50 and 60, not only on account of sickness, but applications for change of diet, increase of clothing, &c. &c. As regards the prison diet, &c., a commission has been sitting during the past year and my opinions on this subject were given before it.

Table X. shows the number of prisoners, the sickness, and the mortality in the gaol.

Lock Hospital.

Table XI. A. shows the number of admissions, which have been less than half the number in 1874. The average time of the patients being under treatment being about the same as last year.

Table B. shows the number of women brought under the provisions of "The Contagious Diseases Ordinance" in 1875.

HONG KONG. Table *C.* shows the number of men diseased during the year. The number of police admitted to hospital for venereal disease is less than in 1874. The admissions to the Government Civil Hospital on this count are about the same. The military show a slight increase. The navy has suffered most, but of the 177 seamen admitted into the naval hospital with venereal disease, 82 had not contracted the disease in Hong Kong. The seamen are, for the most part, new to the place, ignorant of the whereabouts of the licensed brothels, and are often picked up by sly prostitutes in the streets, and by the boatwomen, and to this must be attributed the excess in disease among them. The soldiers and police are resident in the town, and know their way about, and therefore show best the results of the work done under this Ordinance.

Table *E.* shows the character of the disease, and though there has been a slight increase this year as compared with last, there is nothing like the number of cases in former years.

Table *D.* shows the cause and the number of women admitted into the Lock Hospital; only 46 cases of syphilis were admitted this year, as compared with 68 in 1874. Of the 46 admitted 22 were complicated with gonorrhœa, as compared with 42 last year.

Table *F.* shows the number of unlicensed prostitutes apprehended and convicted, 33 in number, of whom 9 were found to be diseased.

No cases of typhoid fever have been brought into hospital from the brothels, which have much improved in cleanliness, and the number each is capable of holding being given when I inspect the houses before they are licensed prevents overcrowding. The inspectors now thoroughly understand what is required of them, and it will be their fault if any brothel gets into its former filthy state without being reported.

Sanitation.

I have little to add to the Report I made last year on this subject. The state of things remains much the same, yet, as much as could be done under existing Ordinances has been done, 1,340 people have been fined, nearly 200 more than last year, but the fines are less in the total amount by £300. The scavenging contractors have themselves been a very great nuisance and have been repeatedly summoned for neglecting their duties in not looking after the drain traps, and for improper modes of removing rubbish, &c. &c. Latrines at places of public resort, such as theatres, hotels, &c., require much looking after, and are greatly neglected by those in charge of the places. Pigs, cows, and goats are no longer allowed to be kept in dwelling rooms of houses in densely populated districts, and many other nuisances are got rid of, such as the preparation of sharks' fins in private houses and other manufactures, which by their abominable stench are a great nuisance to the immediate neighbourhood.

If any further good is to be done in the way of sanitation, it must be through the medium of a new building Ordinance, which is urgently needed, and landlords should be compelled to have their houses whitewashed at stated times, at least once every year, and such faults of construction as I have pointed out should not be allowed.

HONG KONG.

Table XIV. shows the Meteorological Report for the past year. The maximum temperature was above the average, and the minimum below the average, of the past eight years, the rainfall is above the average.

I have, &c.

PH. B. C. AYRES,

The Hon. J. Gardiner Austin,
Colonial Secretary,
Hong Kong.

Colonial Surgeon.

No. 30.

GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.

The following letter from the Acting Registrar General, forwarding a return of births and deaths for the quarter ending the 31st December 1875, is published for general information.

By command,

J. GARDINER AUSTIN,

Colonial Secretary's Office, Hong Kong, Colonial Secretary.
February 4, 1876.

Registrar General's Office, Hong Kong,
January 20, 1876.

SIR, I HAVE the honour to forward the returns of births and deaths for the 4th quarter of 1875, ending December 31st.

During that period there were registered in the Colony 570 births and 899 deaths.

Of this number, 66 births and 57 deaths occurred among the British and foreign community, while among the Chinese there were 504 births and 842 deaths.

Among the British and foreign community the deaths were as follow:—

British	-	-	-	14
Portuguese	-	-	-	16
Indian	-	-	-	8
Malay	-	-	-	3

the remaining portion (16) was among non-residents in the Colony.

The births were those of 32 boys and 34 girls.

HONG KONG. The births and deaths among the Chinese population were those of:—

District.	Births.			Deaths.		
	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Victoria -	227	181	408	287	442	729
Kaülung -	25	16	41	22	6	28
Shau-ki Wan -	17	18	35	25	21	46
Aberdeen -	8	1	9	17	12	29
Stanley -	4	7	11	4	6	10
Grand Totals -	281	223	504	355	487	842

During the respective quarters of the past year, the births and deaths throughout the Colony were as stated hereunder:—

Quarter.	Births.	Deaths.
1st -	376	655
2nd -	334	667
3rd -	373	811
4th -	504	842
Total -	1,587	2,975

Of the British and foreign community, the returns for the same period are as follow:—

Quarter.	Births.	Deaths.
1st -	35	39
2nd -	31	40
3rd -	50	45
4th -	66	57
Total -	182	181

The rate of mortality for every thousand persons during 1875 among the British and foreign community is 28.18, and among the Chinese 25.74, while for the whole population of the Colony the rate was 25.87 for every thousand persons.

If the deaths of non-residents be deducted, the death rate of the British and foreign community is only 25.94 per thousand.

I annex a return showing the prevailing diseases, resulting in death, which afflicted the Colony during the year under review.

I have, &c.

(Signed) M. S. TONNOCHY,
Acting Registrar General

The Honourable J. Gardiner Austin,
Colonial Secretary, Hong Kong.

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

STRAITS
SETTLEMENTS.

No. 7.

Governor SIR W. F. D. JERVOIS, K.C.M.G., C.B., to The EARL OF CARNARVON.

Government House, Singapore,

MY LORD,

November 2, 1876.

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith the Blue Book of the Straits Settlements for 1875. I also forward a copy of a report by the Lieut.-Governor of Penang on the Blue Book for that Settlement. As Mr. Plunket was acting Lieut.-Governor of Malacca during the greater part of 1875, I requested him to draw up the report on that Settlement for the year, but I regret to say that the report has not yet been furnished, owing to Mr. Plunket having been continuously employed on special duties connected with the inquiry into the Perak disturbances.

Taxes and Fees.

2. Schedule B., containing the duties on law proceedings, was repealed by Ordinance I. of 1875, and the present scale of fees fixed.

Assets and Liabilities.

3. The balance to the credit of the Colony on the 1st January 1875 was \$593,134 27, and on the 1st January 1876, \$345,219 29, showing a reduction of \$247,914 98, which is accounted for by the heavy expenditure on public works, and especially on the Singapore Waterworks, under the Surplus Supply Ordinances.

Revenue.

4. The revenue for 1875 shows an increase of \$80,072 21, when compared with that for 1874, the respective totals being 1874 \$1,458,782 68, 1875, \$1,538,854 89. This additional revenue was received chiefly under the following items:—

			\$
Land revenue	-	-	13,682 32
Licenses	-	-	58,082 50
Stamps	-	-	6,686 90
Postage	-	-	7,252 73
Fines, fees, and forfeitures of court	-	-	36,310 73
Interest	-	-	33,532 94

While under the following items a decrease in revenue has occurred:—

			\$
Port and harbour dues	-	-	510 05
Reimbursements	-	-	70,420 88
Sale of Government property	-	-	3,823 76
Special receipts	-	-	2,925 39

**STRAITS
SETTLEMENTS.** The land revenue has thus increased in spite of a decrease of more than \$13,000 for land sales in Singapore. This increase chiefly arises from the better management of the Land Department in Penang and Province Wellesley.

The increase under "fines, fees, and forfeitures of court" arises from the fines and fees in the Police Court, which were formerly paid to the Municipality, having been taken over by Government from the beginning of 1875, while the contributions from the Municipalities for the support of the police were reduced from the same date by \$72,560 79, which accounts for the large decrease in the revenue received under the item "reimbursements."

Expenditure.

5. The total ordinary expenditure for the year is \$1,503,745 11 against \$1,495,185 81 for 1874, showing an increase of \$8,559 30. The total special expenditure chargeable to surplus revenue is \$301,484 08 against \$184,024 95 in 1874, showing an increase of \$117,459 13 in 1875.

The gross increase in expenditure for the year is \$126,018 43. The increase in salaries amounts to \$46,933 10, part of which is owing to certain salaries, to the extent of about \$6,938, formerly classed as "Office Contingencies," now being classed as "Salaries," and part being increases sanctioned in 1874 but paid only during a part of that year. The salaries paid at the end of 1875 exceed those paid at the end of 1874 by \$11,404 per annum only.

Under "Office Contingencies" there is a decrease of \$14,543 67, which is partly accounted for by the alteration in the classification of certain salaries mentioned above, also partly by certain other charges incurred under this head in 1874 being classed as "Miscellaneous Services" in 1875.

Under "Services exclusive of Establishments," the chief increases are \$8,424 84 for the Harbour Department, and \$29,141 53 for "Miscellaneous Services." As to the first 4,000 was expended on a schooner to be used for the relief of the lighthouses in the Straits, and \$4,152 on a supply of oil and stores, sufficient for two years, obtained from England.

As to the second, the chief items of increase are "Stationery," \$3,161, new fire engines \$9,026, expenses connected with the Botanical and Zoological Gardens \$9,475, with the Library and Museum \$3,980, furniture for Government House \$5,796. The last charge was defrayed from "Office Contingencies" in 1874. Against which should be placed \$3,338 decrease in types, &c. and "Law Expenses."

On the other hand there are decreases under many of the items of which the following are the principal:—

				\$
Pensions	-	-	-	18,146 94
Police	-	-	-	3,645 49
Government vessels	-	-	-	9,515 66
Conveyance of mails	-	-	-	14,387 70
Works and buildings	-	-	-	21,928 29
Military expenditure	-	-	-	10,587 33

6. The estimated revenue for 1875 was \$1,492,616, the actual revenue being \$1,538,854 89, leaving an excess of \$46,238 89.

Estimated and Actual Expenditure.

7. The ordinary expenditure for the year was estimated at \$1,800,289, the actual expenditure being \$1,503,745 11, showing an excess of \$3,456 11, which was increased to \$3,893 78 by a small excess under "Special Expenditure."

Local Revenues.

8. The only change is that noticed in paragraph 4, viz., the magistrates' fines and fees, formerly paid to the Municipalities, being handed over to the Government.

Public Works.

9. *Singapore.*—The chief works have been the completion of the improvements to the Supreme Court House, and the building of a new wing to the Raffles' Institution for the reception of Malay students.

Large sums were spent on improvements to the Prison and on the Singapore Waterworks, which works are still unfinished.

The following works, for which sums were estimated, have since been deferred.

Erecting a Lighthouse on Pulo Pisang \$30,000 (of which \$2,847 57 has been spent).

	\$
Improvement of harbour lights	- - - 6,000
Preliminary survey and trace for telegraphic line from Singapore to Malacca	- 5,000

Penang.—The improvement and enlargement of the Prison in Penang was proceeded with, and has since been nearly completed.

Malacca.—The construction of the "New Market" at Malacca has also been continued and since finished.

Legislation.

10. Partly owing to the change of Government in May, and partly to the interruption to the sittings of Council caused by the disturbances in the Native States, there has been little legislation during the year. The most important Ordinance passed, entitled "An Ordinance for Regulating the Immigration of Native Labourers from British India," has since been repealed by Ordinance I. of 1876.

Pensions.

11. Mr. Baumgarten, late Registrar of the Supreme Court at Singapore, has been permitted to retire upon a pension, upon the reorganization of his Department. An allowance has also been made to Mrs. Dent, widow of the late Superintendent of Prisons, who was killed in the outbreak in the gaol in February 1875.

Education.

12. The number of schools, English and Malay, has varied as follows :—

—	Years.	Schools.	Scholars.
English - -	1874	15	2,533
” - -	1875	21	2,907
Malay - -	1874	47	1,875
” - -	1875	42	1,804

The increased number of English schools is due to the opening of six small branch schools, four in Singapore and two in Penang, for English instruction to very young natives. It was thought that the new Education Department could usefully supply a want which was felt of elementary schools in different parts of the town where, without leaving the neighbourhood and under teachers acquainted with their respective languages and often of their own race, the Chinese and Tamil boys could be encouraged to enter school at a much earlier age than hitherto. The numbers in attendance at these schools, 235, show that the parents already appreciate these advantages.

The decrease in the number of Malay schools is accounted for by the fact that it has been found advisable to close several of the least successful of the schools newly opened in 1873-74. The number of scholars, however, is maintained.

The large number of boys, 508, attending the Penang Free School, is worthy of notice. I should add that the word "Free" does not mean free of charge, but free to all religions. Its school fees are, as a matter of fact, higher than in the other schools of the Colony.

Imports.

13. The grand total of the value of imports into the three settlements for the year 1875 is \$63,137,716, showing a decrease of \$3,980,266, rather under 6 per cent., when compared with the amount for 1874.

14. *Singapore.*—The value of imports into Singapore for the year is 43,766,201, a decrease of \$3,120,869, or a little more than 6½ per cent., from the previous year. The following statement shows the amounts under each of the three classes into which the imports are divided :—

	\$
From United Kingdom	- - - 8,669,518
„ British Colonies and Coasting	- 15,373,924
„ Foreign Countries	- - - 19,722,759

In the first the decrease amounts to \$1,735,831, or nearly 17 per cent. on the value in 1874. This decrease is due chiefly to the general stagnation in trade, and to the low price of cotton goods, but partly also to the fact that English goods are now sometimes conveyed direct to the markets in China, Manilla, and Java, instead of being transshipped here, as was formerly the case.

In the second there is a decrease of \$2,643,517, or rather under 15 per cent., which is due chiefly to a fall in the prices of opium and gunny bags, the two most important articles imported from India.

In the third class there is an increase of \$1,258,479, between 6 and 7 per cent.

15. *Penang*.—The total value of imports for the year is \$16,250,691, being a decrease of \$772,770, or just over 4½ per cent., when compared with 1874. This total is composed as follows:—

	\$
From United Kingdom	- 1,778,669
" British Colonies and Coasting	- 6,926,131
" Foreign Countries	- 7,545,891

In the first class there is an increase of \$170,628, or more than 10 per cent.

This can only be accounted for by the fact that Penang is not affected, as Singapore is, by the practice mentioned above of conveying English goods direct to the native markets.

In the second class there is a decrease of \$721,542, or about 9½ per cent., which is attributed to the same reasons as the decrease in Singapore.

In the third class there is a decrease of \$221,856, or less than 3 per cent.

16. *Malacca*.—The total value for the year is \$3,120,824, showing a decrease of \$86,627 or more than 2½ per cent. The following is the statement showing the classes.

	\$
From United Kingdom	- Nil.
" British Colonies and Coasting	- 2,026,673
" Foreign Countries	- 1,094,151

Malacca has no trade direct with the United Kingdom.

In the second class there is a decrease of \$224,030, or nearly 10 per cent., to be attributed to the reasons given above.

In the third class there is an increase of \$137,403, or more than 14 per cent.

Exports.

17. The grand total of the value of exports during the year from the three Settlements is \$62,493,328, showing a decrease of \$149,667, or less than a quarter per cent., when compared with the total for 1874.

18. *Singapore*.—The value for the year is \$41,619,519, viz.:

	\$
To United Kingdom	- 6,658,236
" British Colonies and Coasting	9,791,975
" Foreign Countries	- 25,169,308

In the first there is an increase of \$212,040, or more than 3 per cent., in the second there is a decrease of \$3,033,658, or about 24 per cent., and in the third an increase of \$2,932,339, or more than 13 per cent.

Straits Settlements. The total shows an increase of \$110,721, or rather more than a quarter per cent.

The principal places in the class "British Colonies and Coasting" to which the exports have decreased in value are, British India, Burmah, Hong Kong, and Penang and Malacca.

19. *Penang.*—The total amount is \$19,130,917, composed as follows:—

	\$
To United Kingdom	3,663,944
„ British Colonies and Coasting	5,459,268
„ Foreign Countries	10,007,705

In the first class there is an increase of \$784,512, or about 27 per cent., in the second there is a decrease of \$1,374,086, or more than 20 per cent., and in the third an increase of \$737,318, or nearly 8 per cent. The total shows an increase of \$147,744, or less than 1 per cent., which is chiefly due to the increased amount of pepper exported.

20. *Malacca.*—The total value is \$1,742,892, viz.:—

	\$
To British Colonies and Coasting	1,224,402
„ Foreign Countries	518,490

There are no exports from Malacca to the United Kingdom direct.

In the second class there is a decrease of \$459,563, or 27 per cent.

In the third class there is an increase of \$51,431, or 11 per cent.

The total shows a decrease of \$408,132, or 19 per cent.

Shipping.

21. *Singapore.*—2,261 vessels with an aggregate tonnage of 1,283,786 arrived during the year, showing an increase of 488 vessels with 179,509 tons over the arrivals in the preceding year. This increase is chiefly in the arrivals from Hong Kong, Netherlands, India, Penang, and Malacca, and "other islands." There is a decrease in the number of arrivals from Great Britain.

The total number of vessels clearing from the port during the year was 2,348, and their tonnage 1,003,601, showing an increase of 464 vessels and 116,418 tons, when compared with the numbers in 1874. This increase is chiefly in vessels for Netherlands, India, Siam, and Penang and Malacca.

Though the number of sailing ships arriving at and leaving the port has increased, there is a considerable decrease in their tonnage. The whole of the increase in the tonnage is therefore from steamers, and is chiefly owing to the increased steam communication with Hong Kong, Netherlands, India, Siam, and Penang and Malacca.

There is an increase of 99 in the number of native craft arriving, and of 4,140 tons in their tonnage, and an increase of

4 in the number departing, but a decrease of 8,177 tons in their tonnage.

22. *Penang*.—The total number of vessels arriving at Penang during the year was 1,393, and their tonnage 681,434 tons, showing an increase of 304 vessels and of 166,581 tons when compared with the numbers for 1874.

The total number of vessels leaving the port was 1,368, and their tonnage 668,383 tons, showing an increase of 283 vessels and 154,267 tons.

There is an increase of 106 in the number of native craft arriving at the port, but a decrease of 911 tons in their tonnage, and of native craft leaving the port there is an increase of 57 in the number and 4,961 tons in the tonnage.

23. *Malacca*.—The following statements show the numbers and tonnage of ships arriving at and leaving Malacca during the years 1874 and 1875.

—	1874.		1875.		Increase in 1875.	
	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.
Arriving -	478	94,734	651	101,476	173	6,742
Departing -	481	92,423	847	111,995	366	19,572

These increases are caused by the large number of vessels arriving from and leaving for Singapore and Penang.

There is an increase of 542 in the number of native craft arriving during the year, but a decrease of 4,703 tons in their tonnage. In the number leaving there is an increase of 374, but a decrease of 1,989 tons in their tonnage.

Agriculture.

24. There is an estimated increase of 2,500 acres in the land under cultivation in Singapore, occupied chiefly by pepper and gambier, and consequent on the high prices ruling for these articles.

Hospitals.

25. The general health of the settlements during the year has been good, and no epidemic has occurred. One district hospital in Province Wellesley, providing accommodation for 40 patients, was opened in August.

Gaols and Prisoners.

26. The number of persons committed to penal imprisonment shows a considerable decrease. The unusually large number of deaths in the "House of Correction" at Singapore is due, first, to the number actually killed, or who afterwards died of wounds received at the unfortunate outbreak in the gaol in February 1875, on which occasion Mr. Dent, the superintendent of prisons, met with his death; secondly, to the fact that "beri-beri" became

Straits Settlements. endemic for a time in the gaol, and several deaths were caused by it.

Charitable and Literary Institutions.

27. The only alterations to be noticed are the establishment of the "Raffles' Library and Museum," which is at present in the Town Hall, but will shortly be moved temporarily into the unoccupied portion of the new wing of the Raffles' Institution, and the taking over of the "Horticultural Gardens," formerly kept up by private subscriptions, by the Government.

I have, &c.

(Signed) Wm. F. DRUMMOND JERVOIS.
The Right Hon. The Earl of Carnarvon,
&c. &c. &c.

LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR A. E. H. ANSON, C.M.G., to His Excellency the GOVERNOR.

Lieutenant-Governor's Office, Penang,
SIR, July 7, 1876.

I HAVE the honor to enclose my report on the "Blue Book" of this Settlement for the year 1875.

I have, &c.

(Signed) A. E. H. ANSON,
His Excellency the Governor, Lieutenant-Governor.
Straits Settlements.

Revenue and Expenditure.

1. The revenue of the year, which amounted to \$457,044 39, exceeded that of the previous year by \$12,247 98, and that of the year 1868, the year of the transfer of the Settlements, which amounted to \$324,196 80, by \$132,847 59, or by more than one third.

2. On comparing the revenue of the Settlement of Penang with that of the head quarter Settlement of Singapore, for the two years 1868 and 1875, the comparison will be found, as exhibited below, in favour of the former Settlement.

—	1868.	1875.	Increase.
Penang - -	324,196	457,044	40·9 per cent.
Singapore - -	864,918	969,215	12 "

A falling off of \$7,759 35 took place in the receipts from judicial stamps, but there was an accession to the receipts, of \$3,334 27 from revenue stamps, leaving, as compared with the previous year, a total deficit from this source of income of \$4,428 08. It must, however, be taken into account that there was an un-

usual amount received on account of judicial stamps in 1874, the probate of one property alone having added the extraordinary sum of \$12,000 to the revenue.

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3. The increase of \$699 under the head "licenses farmed out" was obtained from the newly established opium and spirit farms, at Trans Krean, and at the Dinding dependency.

4. A reduction is observable in the postal receipts of \$1,110 76, which will be found accounted for under the head of Post Office.

5. An apparent diminution is noticeable under the head of "reimbursements," this is, however, merely a reduction of the charge made by Government against the municipal fund, on account of the expenses of the police force, in compensation for the transference from that fund to the general revenue of the fines, forfeitures, and fees of court, a transaction by which the revenue gained during the year the sum of \$1,668,38.

6. Land revenue exhibits an increase of \$13,130 15, port and harbour dues of \$2,886 72 and special receipts of \$1,191 64; the last-named item represents the collections made under the provisions of the Contagious Diseases Ordinance.

7. The following comparative table exhibits the increments and decrements in the revenue of the year in detail:—

—	1874.	1875.	Increase.	Decrease.
	\$ cts.	\$ cts.	\$ cts.	\$ cts.
Land revenue	39,171 38	32,301 53	13,130 15	—
Rents, exclusive of land	2,197 28	1,852 00	—	345 28
Licenses farmed out	246,018 00	246,717 00	699 00	—
Stamps	67,238 71	62,813 63	—	4,425 08
Port and harbour dues	9,398 50	12,280 22	2,886 72	—
Postage	21,030 95	19,920 19	—	1,110 76
Fines, forfeitures, and fees of court	638 62	19,851 08	19,212 46	—
Fees of office	1,270 77	1,447 25	176 48	—
Reimbursements	49,098 10	30,915 40	—	18,182 70
Sale of Government property	133 84	219 95	86 11	—
Interest	2,932 08	2,066 74	—	865 34
Miscellaneous receipts	1,006 02	807 10	—	198 92
Special receipts	4,660 66	5,852 30	1,191 64	—
Total	447,789 91	457,044 39	37,256	25,128 08

8. In reporting last year on the expenditure of 1874, I stated that the expenditure, as shown in the Penang returns, did not represent the true expenditure of the Settlement, as several considerable items of it were included in the estimates and accounts of the Settlement of Singapore. In the same manner the revenue return of the Settlement has each year, except 1870, fallen short of the actual amount that should have been credited to it by the amount of its share of the profit on silver and copper coin, which amount would be the per-cent-age of profit on the value of the coin circulated in it, and this value, in each of the years 1868-1875, is here exhibited.

STRAITS
SETTLEMENTS.

—	Copper Coin.	Silver Coin.	—
1868	\$ 10,000	\$ —	
1869	8,078	—	
1870	Nil.	—	
1871	9,000	—	
1872	23,450	7,750	
1873	27,650	10,000	
1874	61,700	20,000	
1875	68,100	—	
Total -	207,978	87,750	
		<u>\$245,728</u>	

9. The expenditure was greater than that of the preceding year by \$153,810. This increase was principally due to the following items :—Salaries, \$20,810 95 ; transport, \$2,216 40; works and buildings, \$29,388 59 ; roads, streets, and bridges, \$11,222 78. Against this increase there was, however, the set off of a decrease under the following heads :—Office contingencies, \$963 10 ; administration of justice, \$1,412 66 ; gaols, \$4,182 55 ; Government vessels, \$1,815 10 ; land and houses purchased, \$1,225 05, &c.

10. Under salaries the increase was due to the following causes :—An augmentation of the salary (to that of a passed cadet) of the secretary assistant, and that of the chief clerk, in the Lieutenant-Governor's Office ; an augmentation of the salaries of some of the clerks, and the shroff, in the Land Department ; an augmentation of the salary of the assistant treasurer ; an augmentation of salary to the assistant surveyors, and the second clerk, and the appointment of an additional surveyor, in the Public Works and Survey Department ; to the new appointments of puisne judge, his clerk, and his peon, in the Supreme Court Establishment ; an augmentation of the salary of the solicitor-general ; the appointment of an assistant magistrate, and of additional magistrates' clerks, in Province Wellesley ; an augmentation of the salaries of some officers of the police force ; an addition to the number of warders and sub-warders in the gaol, &c. The salaries of several of the subordinate Government servants, which had formerly been charged under the head of contingencies, were brought under that of salaries, and thus added to the apparent increase under this head.

11. There was a decrease under this head of \$6,2 37 on account of undrawn salaries.

12. A sum of \$103,368 88 was advanced to the Governments of Perak and other native States in the Malay Peninsula.

Local Revenues.

13. According to an arrangement made by Government the fines, forfeitures, and fees of court, which were formerly paid over to the municipal revenue, were commuted for the remission of

the sum of \$20,164 from the amount of the contribution paid annually by the municipality towards the cost of the police. In order therefore to compare justly the collections of 1875 with those of 1874, the effect of this arrangement, and also the transfer to Government of the ferries in Province Wellesley, must be taken into account, and only the collections of 1874, without the amounts received on account of fines, forfeitures, and fees of court, and of ferries, must be brought into comparison with the collections of 1875. Eliminating those amounts, the comparison shows a balance of actual municipal receipts in favour of the year 1875 of \$5,027 92 ; the receipts, less these eliminations, having amounted to \$113,282 28, and the gross receipts to \$115,424 98. The gross revenue of the year, including \$18,023 82, the balance from last year's account, was \$133,448 80.

14. The amount of fines, forfeitures, and fees of court that, under the arrangement of former years, would have been paid into the municipal fund was \$17,211 00, as against \$17,402 89 in 1874 ; the fund, therefore, benefited by the commutation to the extent of \$2,953 00.

15. The increments over the receipts of the previous year were :—Land rates, \$1,092 44 ; water rates, \$167 86 ; taxes (mainly in Province Wellesley), \$244 ; rents of market, \$255 ; of bathing houses, \$840 51 ; of ghauts and landing places, \$828 ; cemetery fees, \$420 ; miscellaneous, \$92 62.

16. A decrease took place in the amount received from house rates of \$1,121 95, but this is accounted for by an unusually large collection of arrears of rent having swelled the receipts of 1874.

17. An increase of actual municipal expenditure over that of the preceding year of \$12,596 54 still left a balance of \$9,114 72 to be brought over to the credit of the account of 1876.

18. The cost of the secretary's establishment was increased by \$1,036 73, on account of an increase of \$272 76 to the salary of the secretary, of \$120 00 to that of the chief clerk, of \$36 to each of three bill collectors, and of the appointment of two additional clerks at salaries of \$720 and \$300 respectively.

19. A fee of \$820 was paid to a civil engineer for furnishing a design for an increased water supply for the town, and for the necessary plans, estimates, and specifications for executing it.

20. The cost of scavenging was in town increased by \$431 93, and in the villages in Province Wellesley by \$191 56 ; the total expenditure on account of scavenging having been \$5,851 95.

21. \$754 85, an excess of \$428 50 over the sum expended the previous year, were spent on the cemetery, and \$560 70, or an excess of \$334 35, on disinfectants.

22. The market repairs and improvements accounted for \$1,416 37.

23. The drainage of the town was continued, and that of the villages of Jelutong and Dhoby Ghaut effected ; the whole at an outlay of \$10,228 09, or of \$2,993 76 greater than the sum ex-

Straits Settlements. pended on drainage in 1874. \$700 were also spent on the drainage of the village of Neboung Tabal, in Province Wellesley.

24. The unusually large amount \$52,160, or \$18,523 70 more than was expended in 1874, was disbursed for the upkeep of roads and bridges (\$45,724 on roads and \$5,257 60 on bridges) in the island, and \$4,873 51 were spent on the construction of sea and retaining walls.

25. The prolongation of the ghauts or seaward ends of Acheen and Malay Streets was effected at a cost of \$1,798 40, and \$463 40 were spent on the upkeep of the other ghauts.

26. A 5-ton iron roller was obtained from England, at a cost of \$1,178 62, for rolling newly laid metal on the roads.

Public Works and Survey Department.

27. In reporting on this department, a passing tribute is due in acknowledgment of the services, as well as the excellent professional and other qualities, of the late Capt. W. Innes, R.E., who, up to the 7th November, when he was killed before a Malay stockade near Passir Sala, in Perak,* was the local head of it.

28. The expenditure, \$119,597, which was short of that estimated for the year by \$39,443 18 was considerably greater than that of either of the five preceding years; the amount expended during each of which was \$56,554 12, \$61,858 67, \$65,800 47, \$49,039 37, and \$85,445 09 respectively. The unfinished works will require \$39,443 18 to cover the cost of their completion.

29. The most important work was the construction of a new prison, towards which, still incomplete, \$37,251 was disbursed. The other works undertaken were a police barrack at Bayan Lepas, a police station at Battu Feringhee, and a quarantine station at Pulo Jerejah, which was about half completed. The three new hospitals at Bertam, Sungie Bakup, and Bukit Miniak, in Province Wellesley, commenced in 1874, were completed.

30. The outlay on the maintenance of public buildings was rather less than that of last year, but a little over the average of that of the five years preceding 1874; on "minor works and alterations" it was a little more than during the previous year, and about \$200 over the average of the five years antecedent to that.

31. Extensive repairs to the Balik Pulo Police Station and the Government bungalows on Penang Hill consumed the separate vote of \$2,900 for "special repairs."

32. With the exception of the year 1872, when accommodation for European in replacement of native (Indian) troops had to be provided, the sum spent on military works, \$11,921, was larger

* Capt. Innes was, on the report of the murder of the late Mr. I. W. W. Birch, Her Britannic Majesty's Commissioner in Perak, appointed to act temporarily as Assistant Commissioner of that native State. He accompanied the troops under the command of Lieut. Booth, of Her Majesty's 10th Regiment, when they went to endeavour to recover the body of Mr. Birch at Passir Sala, and was killed during the attack made by the troops on a stockade that intercepted their march near that place.

than the amount laid out on that account during either of the five previous years; the amounts for those years having been respectively \$1,505 85, \$2,222 27, \$13,762 97, \$2,582 92, and \$6,766 97.

33. The expenditure last year comprised that for the continuation of the building of the officers' mess house and quarters, for the erection of a fives court, and a new quarter for the hospital sergeant, and for the drainage around the infantry lines.

34. The expenditure on minor military works was considerably less, and on current repairs of military buildings a little more than the average of past years.

35. The expenditure on stores was \$1,293, a little more than in the preceding year, but about \$700 less than the average of the five years preceding that again.

36. Completing the road from Sungie, Rambay, commenced early in 1874; metalling about one third of the road from Bagan Ajain, through Teluk Ayer Tawar; completing the road from Simpang, through Tasseh, to Sungie Tanjong; reforming and metalling the road from the Prye Ferry, leading towards Bukit Tengal; the construction of a permanent bridge, 16 feet wide, at Juhjong Mati, and the renewal of 13 minor bridges and culverts; purchasing the land required for the new road and approaches to the future bridge over the Prye, and the part construction of one of its abutments, and the carrying nearly to completion of the extension of the main road from Butterworth to Nebong Tabal, to Permatang Brimbang, opposite Teluk Epil, on the Krea River, were the principal works which absorbed the sum of \$45,608, voted under the head of "roads, streets, and bridges," being \$13,000 above the average of the sum expended during the five preceding years.

37. The Juru Bridge which, in consequence of the injury done by the worm to its wooden piles, was in a dangerous condition, had \$3,530, specially voted, expended on it.

38. The outlay on the maintenance of roads, streets, and bridges was a little greater than the average of that of the five preceding years.

39. A new road was made on the west side of the esplanade in George Town, to replace the old road, part of which will be occupied as the site of the future town hall.

Survey Branch.

40. There was a considerable area under survey at the close of 1874, which was completed during the year. The amount of survey work performed was much greater than that during any recent year, and exceeded the combined amount performed during the two preceding years, this was due in a great measure to the system of district surveys mentioned in last year's report.

41. The department lost the services of two qualified measurers. This necessitated the training of two others to replace them, and the delay consequent on doing so caused a reduction

Straits Settlements. in the area of land (in allotments) surveyed, which amounted nevertheless to 5,630 acres.

42. The private surveys comprised 391 acres, and produced a revenue of \$1,092, or an increase over that of 1874 of \$600. About \$1,300 acres of special or circuit survey was completed, also the survey and laying out of the villages of Nebong Tabal and Telok Epil.

43. The skeleton survey of suburbs of George Town was also completed, and about 200 acres of its detail was filled in.

44. The path to Salamah was traced and cleared for about six miles, and the Arrah Kudah road traced and formed to a width of 10 feet for about seven miles.

45. The trace to Larut from Samagagah was cut and cleared a distance of about four miles, and that from the Kreean River to Tanjong Piandang in Trans-Kreean for about eight miles, altogether about 28 miles of road and path were traced.

46. The base for the trigonometrical survey of the settlement was measured, and several stations for it were fixed and cleared.

47. Good progress was made in working up the arrears in the records of the office, temporary, clerical, and other assistance having been accorded for the performance of so necessary a duty.

Gaols.

48. With the exception of that of a European warden, dismissed for misconduct, the conduct of the prison staff was generally good. The Government had to regret the loss of Mr. Bailey, the gaoler, whose state of health obliged him to take leave of absence to seek relief from change of air in Tasmania, where, almost on his arrival, his demise took place. Mr. Bailey had been a most energetic officer, and quitted his post only when actually forced to do so from bodily prostration, the duties of the gaol have since, however, been very ably conducted by the chief warden as acting gaoler.

49. A conspiracy was detected among some of the "long sentence" prisoners awaiting removal to the gaol at Singapore, who having heard of the outbreak in that gaol had made preparations for a similar attempt on the lives of the gaoler and prison officers with a view to escape, timely information however enabled measures to be adopted to frustrate the designs of the conspirators, who were sent on board the Colonial steamer "Pluto" for transport to Singapore a few hours before the time fixed to carry their plans into execution.

50. The conduct of the short sentence prisoners was generally good, and no escapes occurred.

51. There was a decrease in the number of admissions of 244 males and 6 females. 114 prisoners were transferred to Singapore at a cost of \$411 or \$3.60 per head. The per-centaged admitted into hospital was 34.23.

52. Of the 1,522 admissions to the gaol, 19.84 per cent. were reconvictions. 1,511 reports were made against prisoners for

breaches of prison discipline, but only 10 per cent. of those reported received punishment.

53. * Soldiers were admitted for offences against military discipline.

54. 10,404.5 cubic yards of stone (measured as macadam) were broken by the prisoners. The whole expenditure on the gaol was \$28,354 30, and the receipts from labour and payments on account of naval and military prisoners were \$16,521 98, leaving a balance against expenditure of \$17,832 32.

Police.

55. The police force consisted of a superintendent, 2 assistant superintendents, 15 inspectors and sub-inspectors, 2 native sergeant-majors, 15 sergeants, 40 corporals, and 380 constables, divided into three classes.

56. The cost of this establishment was \$53,000 as against \$33,806 28 in 1868, and \$47,136 in 1874.

57. The force was divided among 20 stations in Prince of Wales Island, 18 stations in Province Wellesley, and one station at Pulo Pankor, Dinding. The strength of the force in Prince of Wales Island was 287 officers and men, one half of whom were stationed in George Town.

58. The increased cost of the force is partly due to increased salaries, and partly to an augmentation of the force to meet the general requirements of the settlement, as well as those of the new dependencies of Trans-Kreean and the Dindings.

59. The great demand for labour here as well as on the new tobacco plantations on the opposite coast of Sumatra has very considerably raised the price of labour, so that an ordinary free cooly now receives as high wages as are tendered to respectable young men as an inducement to join the ranks of the police. It is not to be wondered at therefore that considerable difficulty is found in filling vacancies in the force, or that the "personnel" of which it is composed should not generally be as good or as reliable as could be desired.

60. Several of the officers and constables were during the late disturbances employed in the native states, but as a substitute for a military force it was found that the men were not as a rule to be depended on, some, however, of both officers and men did good service, and one constable was wounded at the attack on the stockade near Passir Sala.

61. The greatest difficulty the police have to contend with is the powerful influence of the secret societies, which, in many cases, render all their efforts abortive, and which may at any moment be the cause of serious riot and disturbance throughout the whole settlement.

62. The revenue collected by the police department was \$9,490, or \$1,579 50 more than in 1874.

* Sic in original.

Land.

63. There was an increase of \$4,660 32 in the receipts of the land office, Prince of Wales Island, and of \$15,158 82 in those of the office in Province Wellesley; making together a total increase in land revenue, of \$19,819 14, the whole amount received having been \$22,494 63 in Prince of Wales Island, and \$30,571 84 in Province Wellesley, or a total of \$53,066 47.

64. In the Island, the increase was \$953 from land sales, \$2,217 70 from quitrents, \$311 30 from beach rents, \$131 65 from grazing lands and gardens, \$1,715 63 from timber royalties, \$230 50 from fees for search and registration, and \$206 10 from the sale of land for ballast, &c. The increase in the receipts from timber royalties was due to the new timber farms at Pulo Pankor and the Dindings. Of the quitrents collected, \$7,446 01 were arrears of rent, of which there is still a large amount due; but it is hoped that, with the assistance of the Survey Department, these arrears may be gradually got in, and the whole, at no distant date, be collected. Less land was sold than in 1874, and this is apparent in the decrease of \$1,249 58 under the head of premium on leases.

65. In Province Wellesley, where the collections were doubled, the increase was principally due to arrears of quitrent, of which arrears, the amount of \$10,034 59 was collected, and this, added to \$5,986 81, the amount of current quitrents collected, shows an actual increase of quitrent collections over the preceding year of \$8,768 06. These arrears, many of which had been outstanding for a considerable period, previous to the transfer of the Colony to the Colonial Government, were, owing to the difficulty in tracing titles, and to the backward state of the survey of the Province (which, however, is being brought up), very laborious and troublesome to collect, and credit is certainly due to Mr. Birch, the collector, one of the passed cadets, for his successful exertions in collecting them.

66. The next considerable item of increase, \$4,884 75, accrued from tenths on tin, by which the sum of \$7,889 86 was raised from the produce of the mines at Salama, near the head of the Kreean river.

67. Timber royalty, which amounted to \$2,757 70, was increased by \$1,480 77, obtained from the dues on timber, also brought down the Kreean river from Salama.

68. There are some other items on which there was the small increase here noted against each of them, viz., tenths on granite, \$12; fees on issue of leases, \$20; fees for search and registration, \$259; and some, viz., land sales, \$163 86; premiums on leases, \$40 40; and rent of public ferries, \$448 76, on which there was the small decrease noted against each.

69. The cost of making collections was for salaries of the fixed establishment, \$4,224; special expenditure on account of collecting land revenues and making up land registers, \$1,820 17, or a total of \$6,044 17.

70. The change made in 1874 in the arrangements of the land office, removing the Province Wellesley Branch to Butterworth, has not, as was anticipated, been conducive to the convenience of the public, and has, at the same time, proved very inconvenient to the local government.

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SETTLEMENTS.

Ecclesiastical.

71. The chaplaincy remained vacant from the 21st September 1874, the date of Mr. Moreton's leaving the Settlement on retirement, until the arrival of the newly appointed chaplain, Mr. Fearon, on the 14th October. In that interval, the clergyman who was chaplain under the Indian Government at the time of the transfer arrived here on his way home from India, on leave of absence, and accepted the appointment of acting chaplain from 19th April to 31st May, and the chaplain of Malacca was afterwards sent here and acted as chaplain of the Settlement from 2nd July to the date of the new chaplain's arrival.

72. The minister of the Scotch Church who came to the Settlement on 22nd May 1874, and who received a grant of \$600 per annum from Government, on condition of his performing a weekly service in Province Wellesley, resigned his duties and left the Settlement at the end of the year.

Post Office.

73. There was a reduction in the collections of this office of \$1,110, which was due to the discontinuance of the postal service between Batavia, and the Acheen Field Force. Previously this postal communication was through the post office of this Settlement, and in 1874, \$2,793 27 were received on account of it.

74. There were received in 1875, 2,743 letters, 8,300 newspapers, and 123 parcels in excess, and 1,325 books in diminution of the numbers received in 1874; at the same time there was an excess of 1,301 letters, 1,074 newspapers, and five parcels, and a diminution of 10 books in the numbers despatched.

75. The sale of postage stamps increased to the extent of \$1,478 16 worth, while the collections decreased as accounted for above by \$2,629 49, and charges on money orders by \$4 43. There was a slight increase under "miscellaneous" of \$45.

76. The amount transmitted by money orders to the United Kingdom increased by \$2,741 71, that to places within the Colony decreased by \$487 62. The amount received from the United Kingdom increased by \$263 86, and that from places within the Colony by \$655 66.

77. The local postal business in Province Wellesley increased by 1,701 letters, and 23 parcels received, and 2,997 letters, 1,256 newspapers, 29 parcels, and 22 books despatched, there was, however, a reduction of 47 in the number of newspapers received.

78. A new postal service with Laroot and Perak was commenced in June, and 2,244 letters, 36 newspapers, 4 parcels, and 6 books were received there; and 1,523 letters, 699 newspapers,

Straits Settlements. 20 parcels, and 34 books despatched thence during the remainder of the year.

79. A service was also commenced with Delli in Sumatra, the business of which is increasing, and as the Dutch authorities there have now recognized it, and are rendering assistance towards its conduct, it is likely to become a considerable branch of the postal itinerary of this Settlement.

80. Two additional local post offices were opened in Province Wellesley, one at Bukit Tengah and the other at Nebong Tabal, and four mail carriers were appointed instead of, as previously, employing the police to convey the mails between the general post office at Penang, and the post offices at Butterworth and Bukit Tengah, and between Bukit Tamboon and the post offices at Sungkie Bacup and Nebong Tabal. Arrangements were made for conveying the mail across from Penang to Butterworth, and from Penang to Bukit Tamboon by the steam launches running between those places respectively.

81. The expenditure of the department was increased by the sum of \$287 98, mostly for the salary of the four mail carriers for province Wellesley.

Medical.

82. Five European patients remained in hospital at the end of 1874, and 74 were admitted during 1875; this was a greater number of European patients under treatment than during any former year. The mortality was comparatively high, but this was due to the severity of the cases when admitted; the cases most generally fatal were those of persons suffering from dysentery. One case of admission which proved fatal was that of a man who had sustained severe injuries by the premature explosion of a mine, which had precipitated him down a precipice about 90 feet in depth. This accident occurred in one of the Native States on the east side of the Peninsula, and the sufferer had to be carried through the jungle for 19 days. That he arrived alive at the hospital was entirely due to the praiseworthy care of a European comrade. 46 of the Europeans that were admitted belonged to the mercantile marine.

83. The number of natives admitted was 436, and the number treated 459, as against 448 and 421, respectively, in 1874. The number of deaths, 22, was 3 less than in the previous year. Of the deaths 13 were the result of injury and 9 of disease. 178 admissions were police cases, 26 from the mercantile marine, 13 from the local forces employed in the Native State of Perak, 113 from the police force, 4 coolies from estates, and 102 from the general community.

84. Out of 189 cases of injury, 6 were casualties from Perak, and due to the disturbances there; 113 homicidal; 67 accidental, and 3 self-inflicted.

85. The use of the perchloride of iron in the treatment of abscess, although not always successful, was, on the whole, found very beneficial, and so also was borax, in the forms of boraix

lint and boraix oil, in the treatment of recent wounds, and granulating sores. There was one case of tetanus, in which the treatment of chloral given with chloroform failed.

86. Twenty-one lunatics were admitted, and these with 7 remaining over from 1874 made a total of 28 under observation, of whom 16 were sent to the Singapore Asylum, 10 were discharged, and 2 remained in hospital at the close of the year.

87. Great assistance was, at the outbreak of the disturbances in Perak, given by the Colonial Medical Department to the military and other forces employed there, including the services of several of the officers of the subordinate medical staff who were sent on duty there.

88. Several improvements were, during the year, made to the Pauper Hospital. The numbers admitted and treated there were, respectively, 625 and 784. In 1874, these numbers were 619 and 781. 421 patients were discharged, 58 absconded, and 81 died, these figures contrast very favourably with those under the same heads of 1874. Of the deaths 10 occurred within 6 hours; 38 within 24 hours, and 33 within 7 days after admission.

89. The diseases treated in this hospital were of the usual description. Death occurred in 8 cases from dysentery; in 37 from diarrhoea, and in 25 from general debility; these diseases account also for the greatest number of admissions.

90. In the gaol the general health of the prisoners was good, but the average daily number of sick and the death rate were greater than in 1874. The most prevalent diseases were intermittent fever and ulcers.

91. There were 65 lepers treated in the Leper Hospital at Pulo Jerajah, of whom 18 were admitted, 1 absconded, and 19 died.

92. The average daily number of patients sick from other diseases than leprosy was 3·5. Of these diseases 62 were cases of intermittent fever; 13 of ulcer; 8 of diarrhoea, and 2 of dysentery; 1 was a case of general dropsy, and 1 of rheumatism.

93. The duties which principally demand the attention of the health officer of the port are those connected with the Indian cooly immigration and the pilgrim traffic. Coolies and pilgrims are now generally conveyed in steamers of superior class, and having good accommodation. The coolies embark at Negapatam and make the voyage in steamers of not less than 400 tons in 7 days, and on arrival are immediately inspected by the health officer. Pilgrim steamers are generally much larger vessels, and sometimes carry as many as 1,200 adult passengers. The general sanitary arrangements for the pilgrims on board ship have of late years been greatly improved. A few years ago the whole pilgrim traffic was carried on in inferior sailing vessels, under the command of natives, and these vessels, during a protracted voyage, touched at ports not under British jurisdiction, and where no regulations for the preservation of the health of the pilgrims, by preventing overcrowding or otherwise, existed.

Straits Settlements. 94. The health officer remarks that in consequence of the amount of deck space occupied by deck houses, boats, and ships lumber, the allowance of one adult passenger per ton register measurement causes, in some instances, overcrowding in pilgrim ships, and that the same evil is caused by the great quantity of baggage which pilgrims now take with them and stow between decks, in the space allotted for their own accommodation, instead of in the hold. He, not unreasonably, recommends that the number of passengers should be regulated by the amount of superficial area available for their accommodation. His experience, from visiting these vessels, has induced him to suggest further that there should, in the absence of a medical officer on board, be some rules for enforcing a regular visitation of the "between decks," and an inspection of the passengers, with a view to detect epidemic disease before it has had time to spread, and for segregating any person found suffering from such a disease; also that there should be a specified quantity of medicines and of disinfectants for every 100 passengers, as at present the supply carried in some vessels is only that required by the Board of Trade for the crew alone. It is due to the masters of some of these vessels to state that they show considerable interest in their pilgrim passengers, and, so far as their knowledge of sanitary requirements and the means placed by the owners or agents of their vessels at their disposal extend, they do all in their power for them. The pilgrims which arrived during the year from Jeddah were generally healthy.

95. In Prince of Wales Island 1,096 persons were vaccinated, of whom 16 were Europeans, 17 Eurasians, 619 Chinese, 248 Malays, 54 Klings, 7 Arabs, 11 Javanese, 7 Siamese, 12 Bengalis, 103 Hindoos, 1 was a Portuguese, and 1 a Burmese.

96. Of the 1,096 vaccinations, 304 were perfect, 322 modified, 286 failed, and 184 were not again seen. There appears to be a great deterioration in the active principles of the lymph, during its transit from England to this Settlement, this deterioration is attributed to the great heat in the mail room, where as it is transmitted by post it is placed on board the mail steamer and accounts for most of the failures and the imperfect results of the operation.

The number of registered births in Prince of Wales Island was 339, and the number of deaths 751, out of which 31 were those of children under the age of three months.

98. Notwithstanding that cases of cholera were reported as having occurred in Kedah, on the other side of the Muda River, no case occurred in Province Wellesley, and the general health in that part of the Settlement was very good.

99. Two cases of smallpox were admitted into hospital in Province Wellesley, one of which, that of a sailor, proved fatal.

100. Of the three new district hospitals in Province Wellesley only one was opened, in consequence of the outbreak in Perak having necessitated the employment in that Native State of the apothecaries appointed to take charge of them. The one opened

that at Bertam in the North, was occupied in the middle of August.

101. The Contagious Diseases Ordinance was brought into operation in that part of the Settlement in February, but with little result on account of the absence of fixity of residence of those persons affected by it, and of no considerable part of the population being massed in a town or large village, and the consequent difficulty of proving that persons were acting in contravention of it.

102. Out of a total of 454 patients treated in the hospital at Butterworth, 415 were admitted, 265 discharged cured, 14 transferred, 65 absconded, and 99 died. The average daily number of sick was 31.52, and the per-cent-age of deaths to the number treated was 21.80. Of the total number treated, 370 were estate coolies, of whom 25 were Chinese, 344 Klings, and 1 was a Malay.

103. Ninety deaths occurred among the coolies treated, distributed among the different estates, as follows:—Alma Estate 36, Malakoff 12, Pry 9, Caledonia 8, Victoria 8, Tasseh 5, Simpang Ampat 5, Kreean 4, Golden Grove 2, Batu Kawan 1.

104. The remainder of the obit list was made up of 7 paupers and 2 policemen.

105. Seventy-three cases of injury (41 homicidal and 32 accidental) were admitted, of which two (one a case of goring through the intestines by a buffalo, and one of gunshot wound) proved fatal.

106. The greatest number of patients admitted into this hospital was made of coolies from the estates, among whom the most common diseases were ulcers, chronic diarrhoea, dysentery, debility, and venereal. The diseases from which the police patients generally suffered were fever and rheumatism.

107. The high rate of mortality is ascribed to a low form of diarrhoea, the result of a debilitated and broken-down state of the constitution of the patients. All those who died of this disease exhibited similar symptoms. They were mostly estate coolies, and many of them had arrived from India in an unfit condition for work, and having become sick had no stamina to enable them to rally again.

108. The newly opened hospital at Bertam was constructed to accommodate 36 patients, and its sanitary condition was reported by the medical officer in charge to be good. In it 58 patients were treated, 33 of whom were discharged before the end of the year. The daily average number of patients was 14.26. The patients were 56 coolies from the Malakoff Estate, 2 paupers, 1 Chinese, and 1 Malay. The prevailing diseases, as at Butterworth, were diarrhoea and ulcers.

109. A decrease of 23 appears in the number of children vaccinated in Province Wellesley, as compared with that in the previous year. This is due to the removal of one of the apothecaries, and the sickness of another. The number vaccinated was 577, of which 346 were perfect, 63 modified, 62 failed, and

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS. 106 were not seen after vaccination. The number of births registered in the Province was 883, and the number of deaths 804. The number of deaths under the age of three months, the limit of age prescribed under the ordinance for vaccination, was registered as 45.

Education.

110. A further increase of 58 took place in the number of scholars on the register of the free school, and the average attendance showed also an increase of 48, the number of scholars having been 502, and the average attendance 370. The inspector of schools reported favourably of the general condition of this school, and by the new system of payment by results the school earned for 1875 an increased grant of \$665. An additional teacher was engaged for one of the junior classes. The committee authorised the purchase of a number of juvenile books to form a lending library for the boys, with the view of encouraging them to read, and thereby improving their knowledge of the English language. The income and expenditure of the school were \$10,769 and \$7,877, as against \$9,488 and \$8,173 in the previous year.

111. Of the vernacular schools a good account cannot be given. Some have, from the falling off of pupils, had to be closed, and the remainder are not working satisfactorily. This is attributed to the indifference of the Malays to any education beyond the extent of a knowledge of the Koran, and to the want, mentioned in my last year's report, of a resident superintendent of education to supervise the schools, and to encourage and educate the teachers.

Judicial.

112. The whole work of the Supreme Court, in the absence of the judge of Penang as acting chief justice at the Fiji Islands, continued to be performed by the puisne judge, whose salary, made up of the whole of his own and the half of that of the absent judge, amounted to \$10,008, or \$912 more than the full salary of the senior judge of the Settlement. It has now, I think, been conclusively proved that, with a little strengthening of the stipendiary magistracy, one judge for the Settlement is sufficient.

113. The working of the new court of quarter sessions has been eminently unsatisfactory, and the court may be designated a failure. This may, to a considerable degree, be attributed to the appointment as president of the court of the puisne judge, who, as already stated, had also acted from the establishment of the court as judge of Penang. Many of the 71 cases sent to this court by the magistrate of Prince of Wales Island, as well as of the 12 cases sent up by the magistrate of Province Wellesley, were remitted to the courts of those magistrates and ultimately disposed of by them.

114. The number of criminal cases entered in the Supreme Court was 157, of which 73 resulted in conviction, 46 in acquittal, 30 in "nolle prosequi," and 8 in postponement. In 2 cases was

passed sentence of death, in 65 that of rigorous imprisonment, and in 5 that of simple imprisonment. Of the 72 offences for which sentence was passed, 2 were culpable homicide, 11 grievous hurt by means of instrument for cutting, 9 other offences against the person, 28 other offences against property, and 22 miscellaneous offences. This compares favourably with the number of cases in 1874, when 174 more cases were entered, and 45 more sentenced.

STRAITS
SETTLEMENTS.

115. On the plea side of the court, out of 41 cases tried, in which the debt or damages claimed amounted to \$75,467 56, judgment was given in favour of the plaintiff in 29, and in that of the defendant in 7, and 5 cases were nonsuited. The amount of debt or damage adjudged was \$44,728 95. On the equity side there were 7 cases tried, in which the debt or damages claimed was \$80,000. Of these cases 5 went for the plaintiff and 2 for the defendant, and the debt or damages adjudged in them amounted to \$55,000.

116. In the ecclesiastical business of the court there was a decrease in the number of both administration and probate cases *filed*, of the former of 13, and of the latter of 7 cases, while 2 more of the former and 4 fewer of the latter were *tried*. The value of estates (in the cases filed) sworn under the former was \$24,962 more, but under the latter \$707,227 less than in 1874.

117. There were 104 plea and 30 equity side actions and suits commenced during the year, as against 136 plea side and 22 equity side in 1874. Of these cases 70 plea side and 14 equity side were left in dependence at the end of the year. The number of civil writs issued was 313, and of criminal writs 294. Of bills of sale under Ordinance 22, of 1870, 1,027 were registered, 10 appeal cases were sent up, and 15 were heard and determined. 12 bankruptcy petitions were filed, and 12 were partly heard and determined.

118. Ninety-two persons were implicated in 63 cases committed to the assizes by the magistrate of Prince of Wales Island; this was a decrease of 17 cases, as compared with the number in the previous year. There was no great difference in the number of persons apprehended by the police and brought before this magistrate. The number of persons committed by him, both in pursuance of sentence and in default of payment of fine, was below the average of the two previous years. The fines awarded in this court amounted to less, but the fees collected to more, than in the previous year.

119. The number of offences brought before this court was 7,225, including 1,853 by summons, as against 6,810 in 1874; of these, 1,825 were offences against the person, 1,653 offences against property other than *prædial larceny*, and 3,747 other offences. The number of persons in the above cases punished by fine was 3,779, by imprisonment in lieu of fine 191, by peremptory imprisonment 501, by whipping 8, and the number bound over with or without sureties 85.

Straits Settlements. 120. The system of administration in Province Wellesley established by Sir Andrew Clarke, to carry out which an Acting Assistant and Acting Deputy Assistant Government Agent were appointed, having been found costly and unnecessary was abandoned, and in September the magistrate who had been appointed Acting Assistant Government Agent and Coroner was restricted to his proper magisterial duties, and a joint magistrate, to reside at Bukit Tamboon, was appointed to assist him. The magistrate having, however, been shortly afterwards employed on special service in Perak, the whole of the work of the courts had to be performed by the joint magistrate alone. The office of coroner was at the same time re-transferred to the acting superintendent of police.

121. There were 2,073 police cases, and 821 summons cases, disposed of in the four courts—Butterworth, Penega, Bukit Tamboon, and Telok Epil in Trans Kreean. This is an increase of 483 cases over the number in 1874, but of only 312 over that in 1872. The increase in the number of persons committed to gaol was 135.

122. The high rate of wages given to labourers on the newly opened tobacco plantations in the neighbouring Dutch Settlement of Delli and Langkat, in Sumatra, and the great demand for labour on those plantations, gave rise to a system of crimping coolies from the estates in Province Wellesley, which was the cause of a considerable increase in the number of prosecutions for breach of labour contract. The number of persons imprisoned for offences against the Master and Servants Acts was 384, as against 259 in 1874. The only estate from which complaints on the part of coolies were frequent was Tassek.

123. Under the Vaccination Ordinance 70 cases, as against five in 1874, were brought before the Province magistrate.

124. In the south of the Province the power of the Chinese Kongsees is very considerable, and they offer every obstruction to the police when engaged in endeavouring to detect crime that has been committed by any of their members, and there have been instances in which the police have met with actual resistance from them.

125. There was a decrease in the number of suits brought before the Courts of Requests at Butterworth and at Bukit Tamboon, and the fines and fees, which in 1874 amounted to \$2,059 25, fell to \$1,938 50.

Shipping.

126. The revenue of the Harbour Department increased by \$2,578 43. This increase was made up of the following items:—Registering vessels \$58, Straits light dues \$1,382 16, shipping fees \$462 27, registration of cargo boats \$10 95, registration of fishing stakes \$590, licenses for passenger boats \$92, licenses for fishing boats \$55 75, unclaimed estates of deceased seamen \$40 80, sale of unserviceable stores \$55 75, fines and forfeitures in marine cases \$25 50, beaching vessels \$400. At the same time

there were reductions in the items: surveying and measuring of \$26, fees for surveying passenger ships \$91 25, pilot licenses \$20, and sale of import and export returns \$64 70. STRAITS
SETTLEMENTS.

127. The receipts of this department, which for the past year were \$13,142 90, show an increase in five years of \$9,502 67, the revenue in 1870 having been only \$3,640 23.

128. The shipping returns show an increase of 304 vessels and of 166,581 tonnage "entered inwards," and of 283 vessels and 154,267 tonnage "cleared outwards" during the year. The increase inwards consisted of 49 schooners, 9 brigs, 21 barques, 229 steamers, and 4 ships, and outwards of 51 schooners, 11 brigs, 15 barques, and 212 steamers, there was, however, a decrease inwards of 6 ships.

129. A greater number of native crafts, but of a less aggregate tonnage, entered the harbour, and a greater number, with a greater aggregate tonnage cleared outwards. This class of shipping is of great importance, as so much of the trade of the Settlement is dependent on it. The following figures represent the number and tonnage of native crafts, as compared with the number and tonnage of those that entered and cleared in 1874:—

—	Number of Native Vessels.	Tonnage.	—
1874, inwards	-	1,524	45,325
1875	"	1,630	44,424
Difference	-	+ 106	901
1874, outwards	-	2,716	70,649
1875	"	2,773	75,610
Difference	-	+ 57	4,961

Imports and Exports.

130. The registered value of the imports of the Settlement was \$16,250,568, and that of the exports \$19,133,711, giving a total value of imports and exports of \$35,384,279. This presents an apparent decrease of \$772,893 in the value of the imports, but the registrar is of opinion that this deficiency is not real, but due to the neglect of importers to send in proper returns.

131. The increase of \$150,638 in the value of the exports, may, on account of more accurate registration, in consequence of port clearances not being granted before the manifests of cargoes have been submitted to the registering officer, be more confidently relied on.

132. There was the large increase, notwithstanding the disturbed condition of the native States, of \$399,896 in the value of imports from the Malayan Peninsula; an increase of \$576,702 from British Burmah, of \$170,628 from the United Kingdom, of \$71 33 from French India, of \$31,922 from Germany, of \$17,150

Straits Settlements. from Holland, of \$24,000 from the Maldivé Islands, and of \$25,195 from Switzerland, but these augmentations were counterbalanced by the decrease in the value of imports from British India of \$134,087, from Hong Kong of \$101,625, from Singapore and Malacca of \$1,060,325, from China of \$68,119, from Japan of \$49,275, from Siam of \$552,902, and from Sumatra of \$146,433 133. The articles which principally affected the increase in the value of the imports were areca nuts, pepper, rice, opium, and silk, and those that caused the principal decrease, coals, cotton goods, and tobacco.

133. The increase in the value of exports was most largely due to pepper, specie, and tobacco, and the decrease to areca nuts, cotton goods, and sugar.

134. There was an increase in the value of exports to the United Kingdom of \$784,512, to America of \$161,231, to French India of \$63,641, to Holland of \$204,727, and to Sumatra of \$1,032,233, while there was a decrease in their value of \$202,284 to British Burmah, of \$330,787 to British India, of \$226,655 to Hong Kong, of \$595,710 to Singapore and Malacca, of \$239,450 to Germany, of \$129,775 to the Malayan Peninsula, and of \$365,645 to Siam.

(Signed) A. E. H. ANSON.

VICTORIA.

VICTORIA.

No. 8.

Governor SIR G. F. BOWEN, G.C.M.G., to The EARL OF CARNARVON.

Government House, Melbourne,

MY LORD,

September 28, 1876.

WITH reference to my Despatch No. 106 of the 25th July ultimo, I have now the honour to transmit a digest of the Statistics of Victoria for 1875, which has been carefully compiled by the Government Statist for insertion in the annual parliamentary Blue Book, showing the condition and progress of the British Colonies.

I have, &c.

(Signed) G. F. BOWEN.

The Right Hon. The Earl of Carnarvon,
&c. &c. &c.

DIGEST OF THE STATISTICS OF VICTORIA FOR THE YEAR 1875.

STATISTICAL SUMMARY OF VICTORIA FROM 1836 TO 1875 INCLUSIVE.

Year.	Population.		Births.	Deaths.	Marriages.	Emigration.	Total Cultivation.	Wheat.		Oats.	Other Cereals.	Potatoes.	Hay.	Other Tillage.	Acres.	Bushels.	Acres.	Bushels.	Acres.	Bushels.	Acres.	Tons.	Tons.	Acres.	Tons.		
	Persons.	Males.						Acres.	50	50						Acres.	50	50									
1836	224	186	38	1	3	—	740	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1837	1,264	984	28	1	1	1	1,260	15	15	1,260	1,260	1,260	1,260	1,260	1,260	1,260	1,260	1,260	1,260	1,260	1,260	1,260	1,260	1,260	1,260	1,260	
1838	3,511	3,080	67	142	1718	3,221	—	2,069	1,302	12,600	1,302	12,600	1,302	12,600	1,302	12,600	1,302	12,600	1,302	12,600	1,302	12,600	1,302	12,600	1,302	12,600	1,302
1839	5,822	4,104	358	198	177	4,080	—	3,210	1,940	50,420	1,940	50,420	1,940	50,420	1,940	50,420	1,940	50,420	1,940	50,420	1,940	50,420	1,940	50,420	1,940		
1840	10,291	7,254	3,077	618	406	4,136	939	4,136	4,136	4,136	4,136	4,136	4,136	4,136	4,136	4,136	4,136	4,136	4,136	4,136	4,136	4,136	4,136	4,136	4,136		
1841	14,391	6,025	413	514	4,136	4,136	8,124	2,432	55,360	2,432	55,360	2,432	55,360	2,432	55,360	2,432	55,360	2,432	55,360	2,432	55,360	2,432	55,360	2,432			
1842	23,799	15,691	8,108	1,025	1,025	1,025	12,075	4,674	10,040	4,674	10,040	4,674	10,040	4,674	10,040	4,674	10,040	4,674	10,040	4,674	10,040	4,674	10,040	4,674			
1843	24,103	15,862	8,211	1,317	313	364	1,264	3,000	12,075	4,674	10,040	4,674	10,040	4,674	10,040	4,674	10,040	4,674	10,040	4,674	10,040	4,674	10,040	4,674			
1844	26,754	17,626	8,408	1,336	940	948	1,223	6,910	16,292	6,910	16,292	6,910	16,292	6,910	16,292	6,910	16,292	6,910	16,292	6,910	16,292	6,910	16,292	6,910			
1845	31,250	20,624	10,656	1,521	327	316	4,335	1,519	26,134	11,466	23,734	11,466	23,734	11,466	23,734	11,466	23,734	11,466	23,734	11,466	23,734	11,466	23,734	11,466			
1846	38,334	23,531	14,803	1,596	328	301	3,676	1,775	31,578	15,802	34,946	15,802	34,946	15,802	34,946	15,802	34,946	15,802	34,946	15,802	34,946	15,802	34,946	15,802			
1847	42,936	26,004	16,382	1,661	361	337	4,568	1,540	36,290	17,679	34,073	17,679	34,073	17,679	34,073	17,679	34,073	17,679	34,073	17,679	34,073	17,679	34,073	17,679			
1848	51,350	30,697	20,693	1,789	405	351	1,669	4,092	20,279	12,827	40,120	12,827	40,120	12,827	40,120	12,827	40,120	12,827	40,120	12,827	40,120	12,827	40,120				
1849	66,320	39,556	26,664	1,913	593	593	1,913	3,435	24,247	12,075	42,688	12,075	42,688	12,075	42,688	12,075	42,688	12,075	42,688	12,075	42,688	12,075	42,688	12,075			
1850	76,162	45,445	30,667	2,673	780	969	10,760	3,504	28,510	12,075	42,688	12,075	42,688	12,075	42,688	12,075	42,688	12,075	42,688	12,075	42,688	12,075	42,688	12,075			
1851	97,458	58,295	39,254	3,049	1,788	1,788	5,106	3,756	27,729	12,075	42,688	12,075	42,688	12,075	42,688	12,075	42,688	12,075	42,688	12,075	42,688	12,075	42,688	12,075			
1852	168,321	110,825	57,486	3,756	2,105	2,105	1,958	31,038	36,771	16,823	40,974	16,823	40,974	16,823	40,974	16,823	40,974	16,823	40,974	16,823	40,974	16,823	40,974	16,823			
1853	222,456	146,456	75,980	3,025*	2,313*	2,313	2,550	42,443	6,261	37,510	12,075	42,688	12,075	42,688	12,075	42,688	12,075	42,688	12,075	42,688	12,075	42,688	12,075	42,688	12,075		
1854	312,307	205,629	106,639	7,542	83,765	83,765	34,975	34,975	12,075	12,075	42,688	12,075	42,688	12,075	42,688	12,075	42,688	12,075	42,688	12,075	42,688	12,075	42,688	12,075			
1855	364,324	234,450	129,874	11,941	6,603	6,603	3,847	63,571	115,135	26,395	115,135	42,688	115,135	42,688	115,135	42,688	115,135	42,688	115,135	42,688	115,135	42,688	115,135	42,688			
1856	375,560	255,827	165,733	14,420	7,528	7,528	4,116	34,594	21,187	17,693	80,155	17,693	80,155	17,693	80,155	17,693	80,155	17,693	80,155	17,693	80,155	17,693	80,155	17,693			
1857	463,135	287,547	165,588	17,384	7,449	7,449	2,775	2,775	23,729	12,075	42,688	12,075	42,688	12,075	42,688	12,075	42,688	12,075	42,688	12,075	42,688	12,075	42,688	12,075			
1858	504,943	323,576	180,943	19,929	9,015	9,015	4,552	6,168	22,882	12,075	42,688	12,075	42,688	12,075	42,688	12,075	42,688	12,075	42,688	12,075	42,688	12,075	42,688	12,075			
1859	530,242	325,708	194,554	22,032	12,061	12,061	4,469	4,769	27,729	12,075	42,688	12,075	42,688	12,075	42,688	12,075	42,688	12,075	42,688	12,075	42,688	12,075	42,688	12,075			
1860	537,847	328,251	209,596	22,037	12,061	12,061	4,351	4,434	22,037	22,037	42,688	22,037	42,688	22,037	42,688	22,037	42,688	22,037	42,688	22,037	42,688	22,037	42,688	22,037			
1861	541,500	321,724	220,076	25,461	10,322	10,322	4,434	4,434	22,037	22,037	42,688	22,037	42,688	22,037	42,688	22,037	42,688	22,037	42,688	22,037	42,688	22,037	42,688	22,037			
1862	554,560	324,107	230,071	24,891	10,080	10,080	4,325	4,325	22,037	22,037	42,688	22,037	42,688	22,037	42,688	22,037	42,688	22,037	42,688	22,037	42,688	22,037	42,688	22,037			
1863	571,559	327,240	244,310	24,890	10,420	10,420	8,807	8,807	22,037	22,037	42,688	22,037	42,688	22,037	42,688	22,037	42,688	22,037	42,688	22,037	42,688	22,037	42,688	22,037			
1864	601,343	348,326	258,047	25,630	8,454	8,454	8,554	8,554	22,037	22,037	42,688	22,037	42,688	22,037	42,688	22,037	42,688	22,037	42,688	22,037	42,688	22,037	42,688	22,037			
1865	621,445	350,436	270,224	25,915	10,461	10,461	4,497	4,497	22,037	22,037	42,688	22,037	42,688	22,037	42,688	22,037	42,688	22,037	42,688	22,037	42,688	22,037	42,688	22,037			
1866	636,932	357,012	279,970	25,010	12,286	12,286	4,253	4,253	22,037	22,037	42,688	22,037	42,688	22,037	42,688	22,037	42,688	22,037	42,688	22,037	42,688	22,037	42,688	22,037			
1867	651,571	362,273	289,298	25,368	11,753	11,753	4,490	4,490	22,037	22,037	42,688	22,037	42,688	22,037	42,688	22,037	42,688	22,037	42,688	22,037	42,688	22,037	42,688	22,037			
1868	674,614	363,832	301,852	27,243	10,667	10,667	4,092	4,092	22,037	22,037	42,688	22,037	42,688	22,037	42,688	22,037	42,688	22,037	42,688	22,037	42,688	22,037	42,688	22,037			
1869	693,740	365,561	314,552	28,040	10,630	10,630	4,735	4,735	22,037	22,037	42,688	22,037	42,688	22,037	42,688	22,037	42,688	22,037	42,688	22,037	42,688	22,037	42,688	22,037			
1870	726,539	374,844	325,554	27,151	10,420	10,420	4,732	4,732	22,037	22,037	42,688	22,037	42,688	22,037	42,688	22,037	42,688	22,037	42,688	22,037	42,688	22,037	42,688	22,037			
1871	752,445	412,496	340,436	27,382	9,918	9,918	4,693	4,693	22,037	22,037	42,688	22,037	42,688	22,037	42,688	22,037	42,688	22,037	42,688	22,037	42,688	22,037	42,688	22,037			
1872	770,747	419,906	350,824	27,361	11,501	11,501	4,974	4,974	22,037	22,037	42,688	22,037	42,688	22,037	42,688	22,037	42,688	22,037	42,688	22,037	42,688	22,037	42,688	22,037			
1873	790,402	430,042	360,450	28,100	11,501	11,501	4,974	4,974	22,037	22,037	42,688	22,037	42,688	22,037	42,688	22,037	42,688	22,037	42,688	22,037	42,688	22,037	42,688	22,037			
1874	808,457	439,159	368,278	26,800	12,292	12,292	4,925	4,925	22,037	22,037	42,688	22,037	42,688	22,037	42,688	22,037	42,688	22,037	42,688	22,037	42,688	22,037	42,688	22,037			
1875	823,272	447,148	367,446	26,720	16,287	16,287	4,985	4,985	22,037	22,037	42,688	22,037	42,688	22,037	42,688	22,037	42,688	22,037	42,688	22,037	42,688	22,037	42,688	22,037			

* The births and deaths given for 1853 are all of which there is any record, but it is known that the figures considerably understate the truth. It is supposed that each in the year 1853, and to not less than 5

Statistical Summary of Victoria from 1836 to 1875 inclusive—continued.

Year.	Live Stock.			Land Sales,†			Shipping.			Exports.		
	Horses.	Cattle.	Sheep.	Pigs.	Revenue.*	Expenditure.*	Acres Sold.	Amount Realised.	Inwards.	Outwards.	Quantity.	Value.
					£	£	£	£	Tons.	Tons.	Quantity.	Value.
1836	75	155	41,382	—	6,071	—	2,165	—	7,116	140	12,754	—
1837	—	13,272	310,946	—	40,020	5,872	38,694	33,977	137	11,717	136	11,679
1838	524	—	—	—	74,668	35,849	38,580	38,236	263	43,416	328	34,334
1839	—	50,887	782,285	—	235,884	70,129	85,561	219,360	272	52,500	228	34,156
1840	2,372	—	—	—	201,363	49,311	49,311	21,085	237	45,765	234,265	1,714,711
1841	—	100,792	1,404,333	—	87,296	144,631	16,638	7,398	288	46,605	230	188,036
1842	4,065	167,156	1,602,798	—	57,165	7,299	43,294	43,294	229	46,605	230	154,482
1843	6,278	187,873	1,860,912	—	69,913	83	43,241	83	985	229	46,605	230
1844	7,076	231,602	1,762,557	3,086	59,539	43,241	43,241	43,241	818	273	31,337	251
1845	9,382	231,602	1,762,557	3,086	51,095	43,601	18,194	340	45,569	340	24,935	251
1846	11,400	230,439	2,046,392	5,501	96,347	18,233	73,460	73,337	423	47,385	425	48,634
1847	13,220	322,824	4,164,203	5,015	515	144,631	140,260	17,345	61,126	67,618	446	55,094
1848	16,465	386,688	5,130,277	5,619	259	259	259	259	70,146	484	97,005	460
1849	16,733	344,562	5,318,046	—	259,483	196,440	40,042	97,970	555	108,030	508	87,087
1850	21,219	378,806	6,032,753	9,260	260	259,483	410,864	93,707	80,940	712	129,426	638
1851	22,086	380,933	6,558,923	7,372	322,455	978,982	231,928	67,193	1,657	49,818	1,427	350,295
1852	34,951	431,380	6,551,506	8,496	346	1,629,445	5,184,441	5,394	721,473	2,308	644,807	340
1853	32,255	546	3,216,609	—	2,166,609	3,157,965	405,673	3,157,965	73,122	49,818	1,996	1,996
1854	27,038	481,640	5,320,007	9,277	3,087,986	4,176,708	438,972	4,176,708	763,554	1,907	551,726	1,907
1855	33,480	632,113	4,557,972	20,486	278,636	2,612,807	438,972	2,612,807	749,562	1,920	588,300	1,959
1856	47,882	646,613	4,641,548	—	2,972,466	6,688,854	437,964	6,688,854	740,131	1,715	624,061	1,739
1857	55,683	614,537	4,756,022	43,632	3,298,303	5,000,333	634,658	5,000,333	634,658	2,007	684,526	1,715
1858	68,933	699,320	5,175,843	37,756	3,092,720	255,724	638,650	2,034	64,108	201	641,254	15,082,240
1859	69,288	683,534	5,175,843	5,096	320,104	5,201,104	631,926	5,201,104	631,926	1,619	651,518	1,607,490
1860	76,536	729,382	5,780,896	6,259	3,082,461	3,115,307	492,248	663,258	1,514	581,642	1,844	599,157
1861	84,057	628,092	6,259,258	—	2,952,101	514,745	1,092,021	514,745	1,778	546,193	1,820	540,716
1862	86,047	627,601	6,764,851	52,991	3,029,407	6,174,939	910,862	6,174,939	1,715	546,188	1,763	581,892
1863	103,338	675,272	7,115,943	235,622	2,882,937	295,622	638,650	295,622	638,650	1,739	624,061	1,739
1864	117,152	640,695	8,046,295	113,550	2,965,338	5,298,903	620,169	522,602	1,008	61,614	14,974,815	13,588,384
1865	121,051	621,337	8,045,350	75,869	3,076,855	1,937,775	295,456	1,743	580,973	1,823	599,351	13,257,537
1866	121,051	621,337	8,045,350	75,869	3,076,855	1,937,775	295,456	1,743	601,254	2,015	611,920	13,257,537
1867	131,148	650,592	9,632,908	141,522	3,082,461	3,126,317	129,333	129,333	21,047	847	593,255	1,955
1868	143,834	683,682	9,756,819	141,522	3,082,461	3,126,317	129,333	129,333	21,047	847	651,926	1,955
1869	161,830	692,518	9,923,683	111,464	3,226,165	725,610	794,548	725,610	2,270	1,734	730,291	1,955
1870	167,290	721,096	10,711,887	130,946	3,261,883	837,507	468,821	837,507	1,734	1,734	730,291	1,955
1871	181,646	749,509	10,000,351	177,447	3,754,291	378,516	528,119	528,119	2,257	682,023	12,341,993	13,871,195
1872	185,796	812,280	10,575,219	183,722	3,794,422	3,639,534	752,309	621,472	2,187	604,426	13,691,592	15,373,120
1873	180,342	883,768	11,323,080	160,332	3,644,135	3,504,935	752,309	621,472	2,187	604,426	16,538,245	15,373,120
1874	180,254	958,658	11,221,036	137,941	4,106,730	4,177,398	531,538	573,051	2,100	777,110	1,212	13,591,760
1875	186,184	1,054,938	11,749,552	140,765	4,298,423	4,318,121	418,561	630,054	2,171	840,386	2,223	13,919,736

* The figures for 1871 are therefore for the six months ended 30th June, and the figures for subsequent years are for the 12 months ended 30th June.

† In addition to the quantity of land sold and amount realised within the year, the figures under the head "Land Sales" represent, during each of the years after 1868, the total extent of, and amount paid on, lands purchased under deferred payments of which the payments were completed within the year, although such payments had extended over a series of years.

‡ Since the year 1864, a considerable quantity of wool has each year been imported into Victoria across the Murray, from the Riverina district of New South Wales, for transport by the Echuca Railway to Melbourne, and shipment thence. No precise record of the quantity so introduced has until recently been kept at the Customs, and most of it has been shipped as Victorian wool.

§ The Murray into Victoria in 1871; 31,52,913 lbs., valued at £1/40,520/-, crossed the Murray into Victoria in 1872; 35,332,089 lbs., valued at £1/40,520/-, crossed the Murray into Victoria in 1873; and 2,290,799 lbs., valued at 2,290,799, crossed the Murray into Victoria in 1874; and 19,75,879 lbs., crossed the Murray into Victoria in 1875.

Statistical Summary of Victoria from 1836 to 1875 inclusive—*continued*.

Year.	Export of Gold.*		Vessels Built.		Vessels Registered.		Expenditure upon		Postage.		Electric Telegraphs.		Banks.		
	Quantity.	Value.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	Public Debt.	Public Works.	Roads and Bridges.	Post Offices.	No. of Letters.	No. of Newspapers.	No. of Stations.	No. of Miles of Wire.	No. of Telegrams.
1850	028.	£48,777	3	232	21	1,413	£2	—	£17,482	11,118	40	381,651	381,158	—	£
1851	145,187	£48,777	12	530	28	2,053	—	—	122,099	35,248	44	466,741	466,741	—	—
1852	2,758,484	8,760,679	3	203	62	5,986	—	—	336,218	622,683	463	972,029	709,837	—	—
1853	3,180,021	11,080,633	1	11	236	33,145	—	—	—	—	62	2,058,399	1,618,789	—	—
1854	2,382,086	9,214,038	20	671	347	45,394	—	—	482,401	517,082	95	2,674,384	2,384,941	—	—
1855	2,783,065	11,070,270	11	320	159	20,819	£480,000	210,062	576,588	89	—	2,980,982	2,949,656	—	—
1856	2,985,932	11,943,458	8	445	71	10,587	648,100	388,511	506,679	125	—	3,220,614	2,966,194	—	—
1857	2,762,461	10,987,591	9	540	63	8,109	476,136	786,050	152	—	3,899,381	2,831,970	—	—	
1858	2,628,700	10,107,836	6	178	48	6,285	808,100	468,047	645,239	232	5,025,820	4,244,691	—	—	
1859	2,280,930	9,122,087	4	71	47	8,541	2,039,500	537,232	601,187	263	6,646,288	5,051,402	—	—	
1860	2,156,661	8,624,860	3	52	30	5,790	5,118,100	419,905	621,554	311	8,116,302	5,683,023	33	—	
1861	1,967,420	7,829,758	5	158	38	6,164	5,845,060	288,341	518,929	369	6,109,260	4,727,719	47	—	
1862	1,688,285	6,685,192	5	31	50	12,654	7,932,740	284,906	407,788	408	6,276,623	4,906,219	67	—	
1863	1,627,086	6,520,987	12	753	79	18,159	8,237,520	257,388	171,271	437	6,638,291	4,930,646	66	2,636	
1864	1,645,450	6,206,237	14	1,006	66	12,542	8,443,970	291,376	475	6,790,244	5,671,927	70	2,626		
1865	1,543,902	6,190,817	15	841	50	11,736	8,622,245	231,919	113,244	625	7,485,808	6,037,530	79	3,111	
1866	1,479,105	5,909,987	9	462	47	10,668	8,445,855	277,062	98,898	555	8,651,133	5,488,338	78	3,111	
1867	1,483,687	5,798,383	6	315	43	6,787	8,450,800	47,874	50,449	583	9,667,890	8,407,819	83	3,171	
1868	1,961,713	7,943,197	6	298	41	8,105	9,417,800	132,476	110,548	683	9,749,716	4,974,102	86	3,171	
1869	1,700,973	6,804,179	7	303	45	9,000	10,335,900	287,603	90,735	661	10,532,711	5,281,327	91	3,368	
1870	1,629,181	6,119,782	5	637	29	5,503	11,924,800	191,573	36,832	677	11,133,283	5,227,482	95	3,371	
1871	1,647,339	6,550,902	8	837	46	11,015	11,994,900	97,085	95,338	706	11,716,166	5,122,970	96	3,472	
1872	1,288,839	6,197,340	10	478	42	8,146	11,934,500	294,761	42,192	733	12,941,036	5,440,772	117	3,634	
1873	1,291,014	5,168,164	3	187	50	12,640	12,445,722	186,454	38,128	764	14,447,035	6,080,007	135	3,928	
1874	1,012,153	4,053,288	5	1,083	44	12,522	12,445,433	330,935	102,922	802	15,728,888	6,866,918	148	4,464	
1875	1,794,164	3,137,905	24	1,762	53	8,519	13,992,588	350,159	99,451	855	17,134,101	7,552,912	164	4,510	

* The returns of gold exports for the four years, 1852-55, contain, in addition to the amounts which passed through the Customs of this Colony, the following quantities of Victorian gold which passed through the Customs of the adjacent Colonies without being recorded in Victoria:—1,552,749,367 ozs. value 2,624,851L; 1853, 632,297 ozs. value 2,446,114L; 1854, 247,36 ozs. value 55,582L; 1855, 41,530 ozs. value 10,612,920L. No estimate has been given of the further quantity of gold taken out of the Colony by private hand and not recorded in any Customs House. The returns show the gross exports. Scarcely any gold appears in the import returns until after the gold export duty was abolished at the end of 1867. Since then the following are the imports of gold, chiefly from New Zealand:—1868, 326,650 ozs. value 1,366,825L; 1869, 385,716 ozs. value 1,416,473L; 1870, 376,926 ozs. value 1,507,082L; 1871, 329,181 ozs. value 1,874,220L; 1873, 252,576 ozs. value 986,494L; 1874, 246,441 ozs. value 991,410L; 1875, 216,606 ozs. value 869,419L. Nearly all this gold was doubtless re-exported.

Statistical Summary of Victoria from 1836 to 1875 inclusive—*continued.*

Year.	No. of Savings Banks.	Savings Banks.*		Mortgages and Liens.		Cities, Towns, and Boroughs.		Shires and Road Districts.		Mining Mills.		Manufactories, Works, &c.		Schools, Chapels, and Schools.		Schools, No. of Scholars.		Melbourne University.		Communications (after Commitment for Trial).	
		No. of Depositors.	Amount of Balances.	No.	Amount secured.	No.	Total Value of Rateable Property.	No.	Total Value of Rateable Property.	No.	Revenue.	No.	Revenue.	No.	Chapels.	No. of Schools.	No. of Schools.	No. of Matriculated Students.	No. of Direct Graduates.		
1850	1	—	—	£	£	£	£	£	£	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	111	111
1851	—	—	—	634	397,178	—	—	—	—	22	—	46	28	160	6,807	—	—	—	—	170	170
1852	—	—	—	732	669,120	—	—	—	—	37	56	39	39	129	7,060	—	—	—	—	471	471
1853	—	—	—	993	408,131	—	—	—	—	33	57	49	49	115	7,841	—	—	—	—	678	678
1854	—	—	—	991	1,868,365	—	—	—	—	20	40	208	128	206	13,033	—	—	—	—	631	631
1855	—	—	—	2,116	3,824,886	—	—	—	—	—	—	152	187	391	20,107	—	—	—	—	—	—
1856	—	—	—	2,340	2,826,548	—	—	—	—	—	51	—	—	227	349	438	24,478	16	—	535	535
1857	—	—	—	1,774	2,125,635	—	—	—	—	—	77	213	473	455	675	26,323	7	3	—	662	
1858	7	7,232	432,250	2,418,497	19	2,557,794	16	641,112	58,113	88	—	386	587	587	36,671	9	—	740	740		
1859	7	8,854	406,779	2,275,252	29	2,605,546	24	663,308	98,780	89	—	421	645	740	42,452	2	9	852	852		
1860	9	10,135	484,501	3,290,181	37	3,383,737	30	8,107,226	118,620	97	8,139	407	642	772	46,205	15	2	852	852		
1861	10	12,001	582,796	3,524,934	41	18,715,561	324,728	42	5,409,687	146,129	94	6,208	475	874	886	51,068	10	6	796	796	
1862	10	13,303	654,884	3,277,221	48	2,744,478	48	20,639,476	284,178	60	9,916,311	146,129	104	6,156	429	882	882	846	846		
1863	11	14,920	701,425	3,147,433	53	18,377,042	362,179	84	4,231,318	296,833	104	7,209	603	1,137	989	86,473	14	5	769	769	
1864	11	17,201	763,681	3,642,405	61	17,750,097	68	12,487,463	290,522	110	7,534	716	1,352	989	69,619	23	12	684	684		
1865	42	20,074	734,568	3,742,365	41	18,715,561	324,728	42	5,409,687	146,129	94	6,208	475	874	886	51,068	10	6	796	796	
1866	61	23,758	700,726	3,313	4,795,380	62	20,241,073	341,420	98	19,079,270	403,024	114	5,328	872	1,766	882	882	846	846		
1867	77	28,376	709,514	3,380	3,455,472	62	20,389,491	325,606	99	21,075,297	389,621	118	5,830	990	1,874	1,206	989	35	526		
1868	84	32,506	805,830	3,636	3,485,315	62	91,563,942	500,324	101	32,625,604	371,368	136	6,068	1,182	1,870	1,430	97,884	47	13		
1869	110	37,494	978,619	4,036	4,701,485	63	21,650,309	423,984	108	24,423,875	534,340	149	6,561	1,385	1,967	1,722	151,844	53	17		
1870	128	45,819	6,758	3,646,639	62	20,476,206	308,620	98	16,364,788	370,811	118	6,337	785	1,635	1,080	73,599	27	8	675	675	
1871	134	58,749	1,117,761	4,849	4,278,197	63	23,268,410	406,101	108	26,897,668	522,033	174	2,210	2,050	1,229	882	11	511	511		
1872	141	57,547	1,463,738	5,151	4,076,329	60	23,929,035	391,936	110	29,105,161	541,817	163	5,779	1,612	1,936	160,743	88	14	430	430	
1873	151	64,014	1,617,301	5,155	5,248,365	60	25,391,360	41,508	110	31,415,663	539,496	157	5,639	1,651	2,284	1,731	236,254	98	21	450	450
1874	157	65,837	1,469,849	6,035	6,542,669	59	28,128,803	462,323	108	37,687,258	638,962	187	5,089	2,467	1,897	245,958	93	29	427	427	

* Post Office Savings Banks were first opened in 1865. Hence the increase in the amounts in these columns from that year.

(Signed)

HENRY HEYLYN HAYTER, Government Statist.

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DIGEST OF THE STATISTICS OF VICTORIA, 1875.

1. The census of Victoria has latterly been taken only once in Population at 10 years, but an estimate of the population is made up at the end of 1875. end of each quarter in the department of the Government Statist by taking the differences between the numbers recorded as having been born and having died, and between those who arrived in the Colony and departed therefrom by sea. No account is or can be taken of the arrivals and departures overland, and therefore the estimate is always, to a certain extent, imperfect. At the end of 1875 the population calculated in this manner was as follows:—

Estimated Population, 31st December 1875.

Males	-	-	-	447,148
Females	-	-	-	376,124
Total	-	-	-	823,272

2. The following figures show the increase of population in the Increase of year under review and in each year of the previous decenniad. population, 1865 to 1875. It will be observed that the increase was less in 1875 than in any of those years except 1867, and that in this case the difference in favour of the year under review was only 246.

VICTORIA.

<i>Increase of Population.</i>			
1865	-	19,752	1871
1866	-	15,887	1872
1867	-	14,589	1873
1868	-	23,043	1874
1869	-	25,176	1875
1870	-	26,809	

Males and females. 3. The proportions of the sexes in the populations, viz., 84 females to 100 males, or 119 males to 100 females, have not varied in the last three years.

Immigration and emigration, 1875. 4. The persons of either sex who arrived in and departed from the Colony by sea during the year under review were as follows:—

Immigration and Emigration, 1875.

—	Persons.	Males.	Females.
Arrivals -	32,744	23,326	9,418
Departures -	29,342	20,457	8,885
Immigration in excess -	3,402	2,869	533

Excess of arrivals over departures. 5. The difference between the arrivals and the departures, in favour of the former, was greater by 35 than it was in 1874. It was less, however, than in any other year of the previous decenniad except 1873, 1872, and 1867. The following figures show the differences in the 11 years:—

Excess of Arrivals over Departures, 1865-1875.

1865	-	-	5,684	1871	-	-	8,382
1866	-	-	4,549	1872	-	-	1,752
1867	-	-	2,100	1873	-	-	3,166
1868	-	-	7,253	1874	-	-	3,367
1869	-	-	11,152	1875	-	-	3,402
1870	-	-	11,467				

Countries wherfrom and whereto. 6. The countries the immigrants came from and those the emigrants went to are given in the following table:—

Immigration and Emigration 1875. Classification as to Countries wherfrom and whereto.

—	All Countries.	New South Wales and Queensland.	South and Western Australia.	Tasmania.	New Zealand and South Seas.	The United Kingdom.	Foreign Ports.
Arrivals -	32,744	10,736	4,002	7,086	4,897	5,363	1,160
Departures -	29,342	11,642	4,735	4,906	4,312	3,244	1,103
Immigration in excess.	3,402	—	—	2,780	85	2,119	57
Emigration in excess	—	906	733	—	—	—	—

7. The marriages in 1875 numbered 4,985, or 60 more than in 1874, and 11 more than in 1873. An inspection of the column "marriages" in the statistical summary forwarded herewith will show that more marriages were celebrated in the year under review than in any other year since the first settlement of Port Phillip.

VICTORIA
Marriages.

8. As compared with the inhabitants of the Colony the marriage rate has been decreasing for years past, a circumstance which no doubt finds its explanation mainly in the fact that in proportion to the whole population the number of persons at marriageable ages is smaller now than it was formerly. The following are the marriage rates in the last 11 years:—

Marriage rate.

Annual Marriage Rate, 1865-1875.

		Marriages per 1,000 persons living.		Marriages per 1,000 persons living.
1865	-	7.29	1872	-
1866	-	6.71	1873	-
1867	-	6.91	1874	-
1868	-	6.99	1875	-
1869	-	6.79		
1870	-	6.67	Mean of 11 years	6.61
1871	-	6.35		

9. In the case of all but 16 of the 4,985 marriages which took place, the ages of both bridegroom and bride were specified. The following table shows the age of husbands and wives in combination:—

Ages of persons married.

Ages of Persons Married.

Ages of Husbands.	Ages of Wives.														Total Husbands.			
	Under 15.	15 to 16.	16 to 17.	17 to 18.	18 to 19.	19 to 20.	20 to 21.	21 to 25.	25 to 30.	30 to 35.	35 to 40.	40 to 45.	45 to 50.	50 to 55.	55 to 60.	60 to 65.	65 to 70.	Unspecified.
16 to 17 years	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
18 to 19	"	—	1	3	2	1	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
19 to 20	"	—	—	4	3	12	4	7	5	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	10
20 to 21	"	—	—	1	3	6	17	19	13	18	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	36
21 to 25	"	—	—	3	16	89	142	193	170	592	109	15	4	—	—	—	—	78
25 to 30	"	—	5	23	67	107	160	183	603	290	50	7	6	2	—	—	—	1,333
30 to 35	"	2	—	9	22	34	60	61	261	221	109	31	11	2	—	—	—	1,463
35 to 40	"	—	1	4	5	14	21	26	127	142	82	64	25	2	1	1	1	823
40 to 45	"	—	—	1	—	2	3	11	9	43	64	54	58	33	18	4	—	516
45 to 50	"	—	—	—	1	3	3	6	13	34	28	35	32	20	8	1	—	300
50 to 55	"	—	—	—	—	2	1	1	12	6	15	18	26	14	11	5	2	179
55 to 60	"	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	3	5	4	6	10	9	6	8	2	113
60 to 65	"	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	2	3	2	4	4	3	—	54
65 to 70	"	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	3	2	—	—	—	—	—	24
70 years and upwards.	"	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	—	7
Unspecified	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	13	15
Total wives	2	12	60	198	387	463	480	1,677	876	359	228	148	73	29	18	9	2	14,986

10. An examination of the above table will show that in 1,149 instances, or 23 per cent. of the whole, both parties to the marriage were of the same age; in 337 instances, or 7 per cent. of the whole, the wife was older than the husband, and in 3,483 instances, or 70 per cent. of the whole, the husband was older than the wife.

Relative ages
of husbands
and wives.

VICTORIA.

—
Marriages of
minors.
Signing with
marks.

Births.

Birth rate.

11. In 125 instances the bridegrooms, and in 1,552 instances the brides, had not attained the full age of 21 years. In 99 cases both parties to the marriage were minors.

12. Of the bridegrooms, 273, or 5½ per cent., and of the brides 470, or 9½ per cent., signed the marriage register with marks instead of in writing. In the 11 years prior to the year under review 7½ per cent. of the bridegrooms, and 15 per cent. of the brides, signed with marks.

13. The births registered in 1875 numbered 26,720, or 80 less than those registered in 1874, and 1,380 less than those registered in 1873. The number of births in the last-named year was the largest ever recorded in the Colony in one year. The births in the year under review were exceeded not only in the two years named, but in 1872, 1871, 1870, and 1868.

14. The birth rate, like the marriage rate, has been decreasing for years past, and was lower in the year under review than it was in any one of the previous 10 years. The following are the birth rates in the last 11 years:—

Annual Birth Rate, 1865-1875.

	Births per 1,000 of the Mean Population.		Births per 1,000 of the Mean Population.
1865 -	42.04	1872 -	35.95
1866 -	39.44	1873 -	36.01
1867 -	39.41	1874 -	33.56
1868 -	40.59	1875 -	32.78
1869 -	37.36		
1870 -	38.25	Mean for 11 years	37.26
1871 -	37.07		

Sexes of infants born.

Twins and triplets.

Illegitimate births.

Deaths.

Excess of births over deaths.

15. Of the total number of children born during the year, 13,683 were boys and 13,037 were girls. These numbers furnish a proportion of 104.2 boys to 100 girls. In the 11 years prior to 1875 the average in Victoria was 104.1 boys to 100 girls.

16. The deliveries at which twins were born during 1875 numbered 165, and in 1 case 3 children were produced at a birth. The confinements which took place numbered 26,553, and in 1 in 160 of these more than 1 child was born.

17. The births registered as illegitimate numbered 779, or 1 in every 34. In the previous year 1 child in every 28 born was illegitimate, as also was 1 in every 34½ during the 10 years ended with 1874.

18. Deaths in 1875 amounted to 15,287. This is much the largest number ever recorded in the Colony in one year, and exceeded by upwards of 3,000 the number in 1874, which up to that period had, with one exception (1866), been the year in which the greatest mortality had taken place.

19. In the year under review the births exceeded the deaths by 11,433, or 75 per cent. This is the smallest per-cent-age on record. In the previous year, which was one of high mortality, the proportion was 119 per cent., and in 11 years prior to 1874 it averaged 146 per cent.

20. The males and females who died during the year numbered 8,563 and 6,724 respectively. These numbers furnish a proportion of 79 females to 100 males. Females in the total population are in the proportion of 84 to every 100 males, but it invariably happens that more males and fewer females die than their respective numbers in the population would have given reason to expect.

21. The death rate in the year under review was higher than Death rate. it was in any year of the previous 10, except 1866. The following are the figures for the 11 years:—

Annual Death Rate, 1865–1875.

Year.	Deaths per 1,000 living.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.
1865	17.61	16.13	16.97
1866	19.68	18.98	19.37
1867	18.25	17.81	18.06
1868	15.77	14.03	15.00
1869	16.19	14.10	15.25
1870	15.66	13.48	14.68
1871	14.43	12.20	13.43
1872	15.18	13.10	14.23
1873	15.45	13.88	14.74
1874	16.11	14.34	15.30
1875	19.35	18.06	18.76
Mean for 11 years	16.66	15.02	15.92

22. More than half the males who died during the year were under 10 years of age, and more than half the females were under 5 years of age. The following are the numbers of either sex who died at various periods of age, and the proportion of those at each age to that of all ages:—

Ages at Death, 1875.

Ages.	Deaths, 1875.					
	Numbers.			Proportions per cent.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Under 5 years	3,835	3,444	7,279	44.78	51.22	47.62
5 years to 10 years	534	532	1,066	6.24	7.91	6.97
10 " 15 " "	222	201	423	2.59	2.99	2.77
15 " 25 " "	363	415	778	4.24	6.17	5.09
25 " 35 " "	436	517	953	5.09	7.69	6.23
35 " 45 " "	818	532	1,345	9.49	7.91	8.80
45 " 55 " "	874	418	1,292	10.21	6.22	8.45
55 " 65 " "	726	271	997	8.48	4.03	6.52
65 " 75 " "	494	235	729	5.77	3.49	4.77
75 and upwards	266	159	425	3.11	2.87	2.78
Total	8,563	6,724	15,287	100.00	100.00	100.00

VICTORIA.
Infantile mortality.

23. The best means of ascertaining the fitness of a country for rearing children in is by comparing the mortality of children dying before they complete their first year with the number of births. The following are the results of such a comparison extending over the 11 years ended with 1875. It will be observed that the infantile mortality during the year under notice was above the average:—

Mortality of Infants, 1865–1875.

			Deaths of Infants over 1 Year to 100 Births.				Deaths of Infants over 1 Year to 100 Births.
1865	-	-	13·6	1872	-	-	12·2
1866	-	-	15·3	1873	-	-	11·3
1867	-	-	13·8	1874	-	-	12·5
1868	-	-	11·2	1875	-	-	14·3
1869	-	-	12·6	Mean for 11 years			12·7
1870	-	-	11·8				
1871	-	-	11·3				

Causes of death.

24. An epidemic of measles prevailed during the first six months of the year under review, and an epidemic of scarlatina in the last two, and the effect of these diseases is marked by a great increase in the mortality. It will be observed by the following table, in which the causes of death are arranged in the order of their fatality during 1875, that measles stands first on the list, whereas during a period of $21\frac{1}{2}$ years it stood twenty-sixth, and scarlatina stands fourth; its ordinary place being fourteenth.

Causes of Death in order of Fatality. (21 Years, 1853–1874, and Year 1875).

Order of Fatality.	Causes of Death in order of Fatality, 1875.			Number of Deaths.	
	21 $\frac{1}{2}$ Years, 1853–1874.	Year 1875.		21 $\frac{1}{2}$ Years, 1853–1874.	Year 1875.
26	1	Measles	-	2,287	1,541
3	2	Phtisis	-	15,986	1,027
4	3	Diarrhoea	-	13,499	1,002
14	4	Scarlatina	-	5,079	985
1	5	Accidents	-	16,576	803
2	6	Atrophy and debility	-	15,489	762
7	7	Pneumonia	-	8,041	590
12	8	Bronchitis	-	5,699	574
9	9	Diseases of the organs of circulation, not classed	-	7,276	558
5	10	Dysentery	-	11,084	509
6	11	Typhoid fever, &c.	-	8,714	445
8	12	Convulsions	-	7,897	423
13	13	Diseases of the nervous system, not classed	-	5,188	316
22	14	Cancer	-	2,596	308
18	15	Apoplexy	-	3,371	303
16	16	Premature birth	-	3,586	280
24	17	Old age	-	2,415	255

VICTORIA.

Order of Fatality.		Causes of Death in order of Fatality, 1875.	Number of Deaths.	
21½ Years, 1853-1874.	Year 1875.		21½ Years, 1873-1854.	Year 1875.
38	18	Congestion of the lungs, pulmonary apoplexy	1,385	245
15	19	Enteritis	3,931	242
10	20	Diphtheria	6,362	239
25	21	Childbirth and metria	2,378	237
23	22	Diseases of the digestive organs, not classed	2,475	233
20	23	Cephalitis	3,221	172
31	24	Paralysis	1,551	167
19	25	Hydrocephalus	3,353	154
27	26	Gastritis	1,795	148
21	27	Croup	2,750	135
34	28	Want of breast-milk	1,374	124
11	29	Teething	6,278	118
43	30	Rheumatism	838	105
28	31	Tabes mesenterica	1,789	102
29	32	Hepatitis	1,731	96
49	33	Erysipelas	688	95
39	34	Pleurisy	1,009	93
35	35	Suicide	1,187	91
46	36	Scrofula	742	83
37	37	Peritonitis	1,151	81
38	38	Aneurism	1,069	80
30	39	Dropsey	1,711	79
32	40	Alcoholism	1,423	76
59	41	Nephria	432	74
48	42	Diseases of the urinary organs, not classed	704	63
41	43	Diseases of the stomach, not classed	956	62
42	44	Malformations	894	61
45		Epilepsy	762	61
52	45	Jaundice, gall-stone	587	61
36		Diseases of the respiratory system, not classed	1,152	60
17	46	Whooping cough	3,498	58
40	47	Cholera	959	57
57	48	Pericarditis	490	47
58		Asthma	468	47
68	48	Hydatids	278	47
56		Ileus	505	45
55	50	Venereal diseases	516	42
44	51	Thrush	788	40
53	52	Tubercular diseases, not classed	653	36
47	53	Influenza, coryza, catarrh	712	34
50	54	Laryngitis	632	33
70	55	Tumour	263	30
65	56	Measistic diseases, not classed	296	29
67	57	Hernia	283	27
69	58	Diseases of the organs of generation, not classed	275	25
72		Skin disease	239	25
51	59	Remittent fever	613	23
66		Ulceration of intestines	288	23
62	60	Ascites	338	21
61	61	Diseases of the locomotive system, not classed	378	20
63		Privation	324	20
73	63	Nephritis	229	20
81		Gout	90	18
60	63	Murder and manslaughter	382	13
80		Arthritis	102	13
77	64	Diabetes	151	12

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Order of Fatality.	21½ Years, 1853-1874.	Year 1875.	Causes of Death in order of Fatality, 1875.					Number of Deaths.	
						21½ Years, 1853-1874.		Year 1875.	
54	65		Quinsy	-	-	-	-	527	11
64	66		Mortification	-	-	-	-	319	10
75			Cystitis	-	-	-	-	175	10
87	67		Paramenia	-	-	-	-	53	9
71			Insanity	-	-	-	-	240	9
74	68		Puerpura and scurvy	-	-	-	-	228	8
78	69		Intussusception	-	-	-	-	191	7
90	70		Noma	-	-	-	-	48	6
79	71		Ulcer	-	-	-	-	128	5
86	72		Execution	-	-	-	-	63	4
85			Stone, gravel	-	-	-	-	65	4
84	73		Spleen disease	-	-	-	-	67	4
89			Stricture of the intestines	-	-	-	-	50	3
92			Ischuria	-	-	-	-	43	3
94			Chicken-pox	-	-	-	-	35	3
100	74		Parasitic diseases, not classed	-	-	-	-	13	3
96			Fistula	-	-	-	-	31	3
82	75		Ovarian dropsey	-	-	-	-	81	2
88			Worms	-	-	-	-	52	2
93	75		Phlegmon, whitlow	-	-	-	-	40	2
95			Chorea	-	-	-	-	31	2
98	75		Ostitis, periostitis	-	-	-	-	21	2
103			Polypus	-	-	-	-	6	1
97	75		Dietic diseases, not classed	-	-	-	-	22	1
83			Ague	-	-	-	-	72	1
76	—		Diathetic diseases, not classed	-	-	-	-	165	—
91			Carbuncle, boil	-	-	-	-	47	—
99	—		Small-pox	-	-	-	-	21	—
101			Pancreas disease	-	-	-	-	12	—
102	—		Developmental diseases of children, not classed	-	-	-	-	11	—
104			Glanders	-	-	-	-	2	—
105	—		Developmental diseases of adults, not classed	-	-	-	-	1	—
			Deaths from specified causes	-	-	-	206,311	15,248	
			Deaths from unspecified causes	-	-	-	1,493	39	
			Deaths from all causes	-	-	-	207,804	15,287	

Revenue and expenditure, 1874-5.

25. The general revenue and general expenditure of Victoria during the year 1874-5 were as follow:—

		£	s.	d.
Net revenue	-	4,236,423	5	10
Net expenditure	-	4,318,120	11	7
Expenditure in excess of revenue	-	81,697	5	9
Balance from 1873-4 brought forward		170,491	9	9
Balance to carry forward to 1875-6	-	88,794	4	0

Large revenue and expenditure, 1874-5.

26. The revenue and expenditure of the year under notice were the largest amounts ever received and expended in Victoria

during one year.* In one other year only did the revenue come up to four millions sterling, viz., in 1873-4 (4,106,790*l.*), and in two other years only did the expenditure reach that amount, viz., in 1854 (4,185,708*l.*), and in 1873-4 (4,177,338*l.*).†

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27. The revenue raised and amount expended per head of the population during the last four years were as follow:—

Revenue and expenditure per head during the last four years.

	—	Revenue per Head.	Expenditure per Head.	
		£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
1871-2	-	4 19 7	4 17 7	
1872-3	-	4 14 7½	4 11 0	
1873-4	-	5 4 0½	5 5 10	
1874-5	-	5 5 0½	5 7 0½	

28. The following are the heads of revenue in Victoria for the last two financial years, and the amounts received under each head:—

Heads of Revenue, 1873-4 and 1874-5.

Heads of Revenue.	Amounts received.	
	1873-4.	1874-5.
Customs	1,761,099	1,628,235
Excise	32,869	32,475
Ports and harbours	20,654	19,935
Licenses (business)	10,135	10,714
Duties on estates of deceased persons	72,086	32,526
Land sales (including rents counting towards purchase money)	558,316	767,030
Rents of Crown lands (not counting towards purchase money)	196,114	174,194
Railways	851,425	921,714
Water supply	103,493	88,556
Public works (exclusive of railways and water supply)	1,641	6,834
Post and telegraphs	186,637	198,326
Fines, fees, and forfeitures	110,930	116,882
Rents (ordinary)	1,393	749
Reimbursements, recoups, &c.	95,269	107,867
Interest and exchange	84,077	175,025
Miscellaneous receipts	20,652	55,411
Total	4,106,790	4,236,423

* Figures showing the revenue and expenditure of each year since the first settlement of the Colony will be found in the statistical summary of Victoria which precedes this digest.

† The amounts in 1874-5 were exceeded in the year 1875-6, in which, according to approximate figures recently obtained, the revenue amounted to not less than 4,325,000*l.* and the expenditure to not less than 4,572,000*l.*

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Heads of expenditure.

29. The following are the amounts expended in the last two financial years:—

Heads of Expenditure, 1873-4 and 1874-5.

Heads of Expenditure.	Amounts expended.	
	1873-4.	1874-5.
Legislature - - -	56,614	56,552
Civil establishment - - -	95,994	105,681
Judicial and legal - - -	177,869	172,975
Public instruction, science, &c. - - -	537,759	596,102
Charitable institutions, medical, &c. - - -	272,290	273,537
Mining - - -	33,009	30,653
Police - - -	194,329	198,312
Gaols and penal establishments - - -	61,787	60,469
Mint - - -	21,667	20,000
Crown lands and survey - - -	118,329	140,246
Railways - - -	405,819	437,931
Water supply - - -	15,708	24,240
Public works (exclusive of railways and water supply) - - -	601,076	669,740
Customs - - -	93,840	57,364
Harbours and lights - - -	24,638	35,035
Defences - - -	56,629	53,507
Post and telegraphs - - -	309,112	357,890
Retiring allowances and pensions - - -	31,508	34,694
Redemption of loans - - -	35,100	35,000
Interest - - -	726,142	742,008
Civil list* - - -	76,570	68,984
Aborigines - - -	7,055	6,209
Placed to railway loan and construction account† - - -	200,000	100,000
Miscellaneous services - - -	25,494	40,992
Total - - -	4,177,838	4,818,121

Taxation.

30. The amounts of which the revenue is made up may be divided into two classes, viz., those raised by taxation, and those raised otherwise. Of the former class are the receipts from customs and excise duties, from wharfage rates, from ports and harbour dues, from tolls, from business licenses, and from duties on estates of deceased persons. Of the latter class are the amounts derived from the sale or occupation of Crown lands, from railways, water supply, and other public works, from post and telegraph offices, from fees, fines, and forfeitures, from the labour of prisoners, from the interest on the public account, &c.

* Including Governor's salary, salaries of ministers, Executive Council, and public worship.

† This account was created under the Land Act, 1869 (33 Vict., No. 960, sects. 42 and 43), whereby it was provided that an amount of 200,000*l.* proceeding from the alienation of Crown land should be placed annually to a trust account, the moneys standing to the credit of which should be available for the repurchase of debentures, or the further construction of railways. The total amount which had been paid to this fund up to the 30th June 1875 was 1,000,000*l.*, of which 910,369*l.* 7*s.* 1*d.* had been expended, leaving a balance to the credit of the fund amounting to 89,630*l.* 12*s.* 1*d.*

The following figures show the result of a division of the Victorian revenue for the financial year under review based upon this principle:—

<i>Revenue of Victoria, 1874-5.</i>			
		£	s. d.
Amount raised by taxation	-	1,724,821	18 6
,, ,, otherwise	-	2,511,601	7 4
		<u>4,236,423</u>	<u>5 10</u>
Total	-		

31. The following are the amounts raised by taxation per head of the mean population during the last four years:—

<i>Taxation per Head.</i>			
		£	s. d.
1871-2	-	2	3 0
1872-3	-	2	6 4
1873-4	-	2	8 0 $\frac{3}{4}$
1874-5	-	2	2 9

32. In connexion with general revenue taxation and expenditure of the Colony, the local or municipal revenue, taxation, and expenditure should also be considered. The following table gives a statement of the total revenue and total expenditure of the general and municipal governments* during the year under review:—

General and Local Revenue and Expenditure, 1874-5.

Revenue.		
	£	s. d.
General Government	- 4,236,423	5 10
Municipal government	- 683,001	14 3
	<u>4,919,425</u>	<u>0 1</u>
Expenditure.	Amount expended.	
	£	s. d.
General Government	- 4,318,120	11 7
Municipal government	- 572,242	14 7
	<u>4,890,363</u>	<u>6 2</u>

33. It thus appears that the sums raised and expended in Victoria for general and local purposes amount to little less than five millions sterling. In proportion to each individual in the population, the total amount raised in 1875 under the two systems of government was 6*l.* 1*s.* 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ *d.*, and the total amount expended was 6*l.* 1*s.* 2 $\frac{3}{4}$ *d.*

* For the purposes of this table, the amount paid by Government to local bodies has been deducted from the municipal government revenue, and from the municipal government expenditure. For the entire revenue and expenditure of municipal bodies, see table following para. 51, *post*.

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General and local taxation.

34. The amount of taxation under the general and local government is given in the following table:—

General and Local Taxation, 1874-5.

General Government Taxation.	Amount received.		
	£	s.	d.
Custom duties	-	1,527,439	10 7
Wharfage rates	-	100,795	6 10
Ports and harbours	-	19,935	7 6
Spirits distilled in Victoria	-	32,474	15 8
Licenses (not territorial)	-	10,714	4 9
Duties on estates of deceased persons	-	32,526	1 1
Toll receipts	-	936	12 1
Total	-	1,724,821	18 6
<hr/>			
Municipal Government Taxation.			
Rates	-	364,337	19 7
Toll receipts	-	69,106	9 1
Licenses	-	107,071	8 9
Registration of dogs and goats	-	10,293	5 4
Market dues	-	27,982	1 0
Total	-	578,791	3 9
Total general and local taxation	-	2,303,613	2 3

General and local taxation per head.

35. The general and local taxation together amount to close upon 2½ millions sterling; the exact sum divided by the numbers of the population gives a proportion of 2*l.* 17*s.* 1½*d.* to each individual.

Public debt.

36. The public debt of Victoria amounted on the 30th June 1875 to 13,992,582*l.* 12*s.* This consisted of—

	£	s.	d.
Debentures	-	12,993,220	0 0
Stock	-	999,362	12 0
Total	-	13,992,582	12 0

Rates of interest.

37. The rates of interest payable on the various amounts are as follow:—

*Rates of Interest.**Amount.*

	£	s.	d.
6 per cent.	-	9,073,320	0 0
5 per cent.	-	2,419,900	0 0
4 per cent.	-	2,499,362	12 0
Total	-	13,992,582	12 0

Indebtedness per head.

38 On the 30th June 1875, the estimated population of Victoria was 813,588, if the public debt at the same period

(13,992,582*l.* 12*s.*) be divided by this number, the result will show an average of indebtedness on behalf of every man, woman, and child in the Colony amounting to 17*l.* 3*s.* 11*3/4d.* VICTORIA.

39. The following was the amount of interest payable on Victorian loans and of expenses connected therewith during the financial year under notice. The whole represents a charge of 19*s.* 1*d.* per head of the population. Interest on loans.

	£	s.	d.
Interest on loans, 1874-5	765,368	14	0
Expenses connected with loans, 1874-5	4,409	12	1
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	769,778	6	1

40. Since the separation of Victoria from New South Wales, not less than thirty millions sterling have been expended by the Government on public works. This amount includes the expenditure on railways, which dates from 1858; that on Melbourne water supply, which dates from 1853; that on country water supply, which dates from 1865; and that on roads and bridges and on other public works, both of which are given from 1851. The following are the total amounts expended under each of these heads:—

Expenditure on Public Works, 1851-1875.		£
Victorian railways, 1858 to 1874-5	-	13,240,656
Roads and bridges, 1851 to 1874-5	-	6,773,817
Melbourne water supply (Yan Yean), 1853 to 1874-5	-	1,318,423
Other water works, 1865 to 1874-5	-	1,427,504
Other public works, 1851 to 1874-5	-	7,244,663
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total	-	30,005,063

41. The number of persons entitled to receive pensions from the Victorian Government in 1874-5 was 139, and the amount chargeable upon the revenue of the Colony on account of such pensions was 26,277*l.*

42. The following table shows the strength and establishment of the land forces of Victoria at the end of 1875:—

Land Forces—Strength and Establishment.

Corps.	Strength.				Establish- ment.	Super- numeraries not main- tained by Government.
	Officers.	Ser- geants.	Rank and file.	Total.		
Paid artillery	2	5	130	137	169	—
Volunteers, cavalry	31	24	196	251	210	50
" artillery	60	88	1,299	1,447	1,575	57
" engineers	5	7	102	114	150	—
" torpedo, &c.	4	—	21	25	30	—
" rifles	65	97	1,552	1,714	2,050	2
Staff, bands, &c.	64	38	100	202	—	—
Total	231	259	3,400	3,890	4,184	109

VICTORIA.
—
Naval forces.

43. The naval forces consist of the *Cerberus* ironclad turret ship of 225 feet long and 2,107 tons register, and the *Nelson* wooden line-of-battle ship of 220 feet long and 2,736 tons register; also of a naval reserve, the men of which receive a small fee as a retainer. The following table shows the strength and establishment of the naval forces at the end of 1875:—

Naval Forces—Strength and Establishment.

—	Strength.				Wanted to com- plete.	Estab- lish- ment.
	Officers.	Petty Officers and Seamen.	Boys.	Total.		
H.M.V.S. <i>Cerberus</i> -	6	36	40	82	—	82
<i>Nelson</i> -	5	32	—	37	—	37
Naval reserve -	9	216	—	225	4	229
Total - -	20	284	40	344	4	348

Military and
naval expendi-
ture.

44. In 1874-5 the military expenditure amounted to 36,373*l.* and the naval expenditure to 17,134*l.* The total expenditure on defences was thus 53,507*l.*

Municipalities,
1875.

45. The following table shows the number of cities, towns, and boroughs, and the number of shires, their estimated area and population, the number of dwellings they contained, and the number of ratepayers during the year under review:—

*Municipalities—Number, Area, Population, Ratepayers, and
Dwellings, 1875.*

Municipal Districts.	Number of Districts.	Estimated Area in Acres.	Estimated Population.	Number of Ratepayers.	Estimated Number of Dwellings.
Cities, towns, and bo- roughs -	59	231,699	395,005	89,107	88,026
Shires -	108	47,745,120	387,473	88,014	86,443
Total - -	167	47,976,819	782,478	177,121	174,469

Area, popula-
tion, and
houses in
municipalities.

46. Whilst the area contained in municipalities of both descriptions is equal to over five-sixths of the area of the Colony, their population is equal to 24 twenty-fifths of its inhabitants. The houses they contained exceeded by 15,988 the total number enumerated at the last census (2nd April 1871) in the whole of Victoria.

Amounts of
ratings in
municipalities.

47. The different amounts at which municipalities were rated in 1874 and 1875 are set down in the following table:—

Ratings in Municipalities, 1874 and 1875.

VICTORIA.

Amount levied in the £.	Number of Cities, Towns, and Boroughs.		Number of Shires.	
	1874.	1875.	1874.	1875.
<i>s. d.</i>				
0 6	—	—	2	1
0 8½	—	1	—	—
0 9	2	1	2	5
0 10	—	—	1	2
1 0	22	29	98	94
1 3	7	4	3	—
1 4	3	3	1	1
1 6	17	11	3	3
1 9	3	4	—	—
1 10	2	1	—	—
2 0	4	4	—	1
Not stated	—	1	—	1
Total	60	59	110	108

48. The following table gives the number of properties in boroughs and in shires during the last two years, arranged in different groups according to their valuations. It will be noticed that in both kinds of municipalities an increase has taken place in the numbers in each group, also that boroughs contained 3,841 more properties, and shires contained 4,757 more properties, resulting in a total of 8,598 more properties, in 1875 than in 1874.

Classification
of properties
rated, 1874 and
1875.*Classification of Properties rated, 1874 and 1875.*

—	Number of Properties.					
	In Cities, Towns, and Boroughs.		In Shires.		Total.	
	1874.	1875.	1874.	1875.	1874.	1875.
Under 50 <i>l.</i>	—	91,320	94,769	75,852	79,425	167,172
50 <i>l.</i> to 100 <i>l.</i>	—	7,981	8,253	7,537	8,326	15,518
100 <i>l.</i> to 200 <i>l.</i>	—	2,964	3,040	2,398	2,671	5,362
200 <i>l.</i> to 300 <i>l.</i>	—	764	782	552	568	1,316
300 <i>l.</i> to 400 <i>l.</i>	—	289	301	268	279	557
400 <i>l.</i> to 500 <i>l.</i>	—	153	160	117	128	270
500 <i>l.</i> and upwards	—	235	242	612	696	847
Total	—	103,706	107,547	87,336	92,093	191,042
						199,640

49. The next table gives the estimated total value or value in fee simple of rateable property in boroughs and shires during 1874 and 1875, arranged in groups according to the value of the properties of which the amounts are made up. All the lines show

Classification
of total value
of property.

VICTORIA. — increase. The increase in shires, however, was much larger than that in boroughs, for whilst the value of property in the former in 1875 exceeded that in 1874 by 4,746,420*l.* the excess in the latter was only 799,198*l.*

Classification of Total Value of Rateable Property, 1874 and 1875.

Rateable Values.	Estimated Total Value of Rateable Property			
	In Cities, Towns, and Boroughs.		In Shires.	
	1874.	1875.	1874.	1875.
Under 50 <i>l.</i>	12,620,396	13,425,920	12,352,195	14,001,922
50 <i>l.</i> to 100 <i>l.</i>	5,201,090	5,236,868	4,778,797	5,774,169
100 <i>l.</i> to 200 <i>l.</i>	3,717,516	3,710,671	3,128,595	3,545,945
200 <i>l.</i> and upwards	5,785,608	5,750,344	12,631,251	14,315,222
Total	27,324,605	28,123,803	32,890,838	37,637,258

Classification of annual value of property.

50. The annual value of rateable property is arranged in similar groups in the following table. Increase is shown in each line, as in the former table. The total increase in boroughs was 42,899*l.*, that in shires was 409,937*l.*

Classification of Annual Value of Rateable Property, 1874 and 1875.

Rateable Values.	Estimated Annual Value of Rateable Property			
	In Cities, Towns, and Boroughs.		In Shires.	
	1874.	1875.	1874.	1875.
Under 50 <i>l.</i>	1,352,679	1,384,125	1,220,827	1,320,284
50 <i>l.</i> to 100 <i>l.</i>	537,885	539,887	492,313	544,464
100 <i>l.</i> to 200 <i>l.</i>	381,885	382,546	315,056	334,358
200 <i>l.</i> and upwards	584,033	592,828	1,111,299	1,349,826
Total	2,856,482	2,899,881	8,138,995	8,548,932

Revenue and expenditure of municipalities.

51. The following table shows the receipts and expenditure of boroughs and shires during 1875 :—

*Municipalities, 1875—Revenue and Expenditure.**

VICTORIA.

—	Cities, Towns, and Boroughs.	Shires.	Total.
Revenue :	£	£	£
From Government - - -	76,064	342,219	418,283
" rates - - -	197,055	167,283	364,338
" tolls - - -	28,859	40,248	69,107
" licenses - - -	68,275	38,796	107,071
" registration of dogs and goats - - -	5,392	4,901	10,293
" market dues - - -	27,688	294	27,982
" deposits on contracts - - -	9,343	22,912	32,255
" other sources - - -	49,647	22,309	71,956
Total - - -	462,323	638,962	1,101,285
Expenditure :			
Public works - - -	233,550	879,719	613,269
Salaries, &c. - - -	40,517	55,115	95,632
Deposits returned - - -	9,861	22,537	32,398
Other expenditure - - -	173,169	76,058	249,227
Total - - -	457,097	533,429	990,526

52. The gold received at the Royal Mint, Melbourne, in 1875 Royal Mint, 1875, amounted to 489,732 ounces, valued at 1,947,712*l.* Of this gold, 3,553 ounces, valued at 13,857*l.*, was issued as bullion, and the remainder was coined into 1,888,000 sovereigns. The Mint receipts amounted to 7,928*l.*

53. Since the first opening of the Mint in 1872, 1,237,657 Countries producing gold sent to Mint. ounces of gold have been received thereat, but this was not all produced in Victoria. The following figures show the quantities from different countries.

Gold received at the Royal Mint, Melbourne, 1872 to 1875, produced in—

	Ounces.
Victoria - - -	884,853
New South Wales - - -	1,211
Queensland - - -	1,141
South Australia - - -	24,455
New Zealand - - -	310,056
Tasmania - - -	12,341
Natal - - -	446
Unknown - - -	3,154
Total - - -	1,237,657

54. In 1875 there were 12 banks of issue in Victoria, and these Banks, and had 271 branches or agencies within the Colony. The rate of interest allowed by these banks on moneys deposited for 12 months ranged during the year from 5 to 6 per cent.]

* See also paragraphs 32 to 35, *ante.*

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Rates of ex-
change, 1875.

55. The average rates of exchange during the 12 months for bank bills drawn on the places named were as follow:—

London - - $\frac{1}{2}$ to $\frac{7}{8}$ per cent. premium at 60 $\frac{1}{2}$ /.
British India - 5 per cent. premium, 2s. per rupee.
New South Wales - 2s. 9d. to 5s. per cent. premium.

Mortgages and
releases.

56. The number and amount of mortgages on land, live stock, and wool, and the number and amount of releases therefrom, effected during 1875 were as follow:—

Mortgages and Releases, 1875.

	Mortgages and Liens.		Releases.	
	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.
Land - - -	4,619	£ 3,686,510	2,846	2,284,740
Live stock - - -	785	536,765	64	288,436
Wool - - -	631	319,294	1	450
Total - - -	6,035	£ 4,542,569	2,911	2,573,626

Bills of sale.

57. The bills of sale filed during the year numbered 3,182, securing an amount of 788,339 $\frac{1}{2}$. The bills of sale satisfied numbered 189, releasing an amount of 85,477 $\frac{1}{2}$.

Building so-
cieties.

58. Sixty-one building societies were in existence in 1875, the members of which numbered 23,617. The aggregate income of these societies during the year was 966,230 $\frac{1}{2}$, and the working expenditure amounted to 26,555 $\frac{1}{2}$. Sums amounting in all to 728,172 $\frac{1}{2}$ were advanced to members in the year, and moneys amounting to 439,288 $\frac{1}{2}$ were received on deposit.

Capital and Profits.

Amount of capital stock paid up - - -	£ 8,517,966*
Average rate per annum of last dividend declared - - -	11 $\frac{11}{16}$ per cent.
Amount of last dividend declared - - -	£ 518,375
Amount of reserved profits at the time of declaring such dividend - - -	£ 2,587,905

Savings banks.

59. Savings banks in Victoria are of two kinds, post office and ordinary. The following figures show the number of institutions, the number of depositors, and the total and average amount of depositors' balances during the year under review:—

* Including notes, bills of exchange, and all stock and funded debts of every description, except notes, bills, and balances due to the banks from other banks.

Savings Banks, 1875.

VICTORIA

—	Number of Savings Banks.	Number of Depositors.	Depositors' Balances.	
			Total Amount.	Average per Depositor.
Post Office savings banks	-	151	39,246	£ 577,381
Ordinary savings banks	-	11	26,591	892,468
Total	-	162	65,837	1,469,849

Queensland - $\frac{1}{2}$ to 1 per cent. premium.

South Australia - 4s. 9d. to 8s. 9d. per cent. premium.

Tasmania - $\frac{1}{2}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. premium.New Zealand - $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. premium.

60. The following were the average rates per cent. per annum of discount on local bills :— Rates of discount.

Under 65 days' currency - 7 per cent.

From 65 to 95 days' currency - 8 "

Above 95 days' currency - 9 to 10 per cent.

61. The banks are required by their respective charters to furnish sworn statements of their assets, liabilities, capital, and profits quarterly. The following figures show the average of the four statements furnished during 1875 :—

Liabilities.

		£
Notes in circulation	-	1,362,167
Bills in circulation	-	73,965
Balances due to other banks	-	223,903
Deposits not bearing interest	-	4,613,867
Deposits bearing interest	-	8,739,998
		£15,013,900

Assets.

		£
Coined gold and silver, and other coined metals	-	2,449,560
Gold and silver in bullion and bars	-	411,561
Landed property	-	727,662
Notes and bills of other banks	-	188,496
Balances due from other banks	-	353,382
All debts due to the banks*	-	17,016,011
		£21,146,672

* Including notes, bills of exchange, and all other stock and funded debts of every description, except notes, bills, and balances due from one bank to another.

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Offences reported to police.

62. The number of offences reported to the Victorian police in the year 1875 was 29,891. In respect to 25,247 of these offences arrests were made, but in the case of the remaining 4,644 no one had been apprehended up to the end of March 1876.

Classification of offences.

63. The offences referred to may be classified as follows:—

Against the person	-	-	-	2,347
Against property	-	-	-	7,693
Drunkenness	-	-	-	11,454
Lunacy	-	-	-	571
Other offences	-	-	-	7,826
<hr/>				
Total	-	-	-	29,891

Cases dealt with by magistrates.

64. In addition to the above, 17,480 offenders were brought before magistrates by summons. The total number of cases dealt with by those officers (exclusive of civil cases) was 42,727. These cases were disposed of in the following manner:—

Offence.		1875.
Murder and attempts at murder	-	15
Manslaughter	-	16
Wounding or poisoning with intent to do bodily harm	-	43
Assaults	-	1,693
Rape and indecent assaults on females	-	38
Unnatural offences, and assaults with intent to commit the same	-	11
Other offences against the person	-	136
Robbery with violence, burglary, &c.	-	212
Horse, sheep, and cattle stealing, &c.	-	205
Other offences against property	-	3,410
Forgery and offences against the currency	-	110
Drunkenness	-	11,454
Other offences against good order	-	5,828
Offences relating to carrying out laws	-	426
Smuggling, and other offences against the revenue	-	89
Offences against public welfare	-	1,561
<hr/>		
Total	-	25,247

66. The following were the punishments inflicted by magistrates in the cases of summary conviction which took place during the year:—

Fine	-	-	-	-	10,669
Imprisonment with or without option of paying a fine	-	-	-	-	15,410*
Imprisonment with whipping	-	-	-	-	2
Bound over	-	-	-	-	307
Sent to reformatory	-	-	-	-	86
Sent to industrial school	-	-	-	-	482
Otherwise dealt with	-	-	-	-	106
Total	-	-	-	-	27,062

67. The following table shows the result of the commitments for trial which took place during the year, the offences also being shown. It is to be remarked that attempts to commit murder are separately stated, but attempts to commit other offences are included in the numbers placed opposite the name of the offence:—

Result of Commitments for Trial, 1875.

Offences.	Judgment		No Prosecution.	Awaiting Trial at end of the Year.	Total.
	For the Crown.	For the Prisoner.			
Murder	-	4	3	1	9
Manslaughter	-	3	8	2	14
Attempt at murder	-	1	—	—	1
Concealment of birth	-	1	1	—	3
Rape †	-	4	3	2	11
Indecent assaults on females ‡	-	4	1	—	6
Unnatural crimes, &c. §	-	5	—	3	8
Other offences against the person	-	62	21	2	102
Robbery with violence	-	19	3	—	26
Other offences against property	-	301	120	49	525
Miscellaneous offences	-	28	10	3	39
Total	-	427	170	59	744

68. Four criminals were executed in 1875; two of these were natives of England, and two were Chinese. In the case of one of the former, the offence was wounding with intent to murder, and in the other three cases murder. Executions have taken place in

* It is estimated that in four-fifths of these cases the option was given of paying a fine. In 6,713 cases the fine was actually paid.

† Including carnal knowledge of girls under 10 years of age.

‡ Including carnal knowledge (with consent) of girls between 10 and 12 years of age.

§ Including indecent assaults on males.

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each year since the separation of Victoria from New South Wales except 1874. In the 11 years ended with 1875 the total number of executions was 38.

Gaols and prisoners.

69. The places for the reception of prisoners in Victoria are of three kinds: ordinary gaols, police gaols, and penal establishments. The ordinary gaols are both houses of correction and debtors' prisons, the penal establishments are houses of correction only. The police gaols are used for the detention of prisoners sentenced to short periods of imprisonment or awaiting trial or transfer to some other gaol or penal establishment, or to a lunatic asylum.

Gaols and prisoners, 1875.

70. The following are the statistics of the three descriptions of institutions during the year under review:—

Gaols and Penal Establishments, 1875.

—	Number of Institutions.	Number of Prisoners		Number of Cases of Sickness.	Number of Deaths.
		Confined during the Year.*	At end of the Year.		
Gaols - - -	9	8,764	948	3,050	21
Police gaols - -	10	1,196	33	57	1
Penal establishments - -	3	1,400	695	506	10
Total - - -	22	11,360	1,671	3,613	32

Males and females in prisons.

71. Of the prisoners in gaols at the end of the year, 632 were males, and 311 were females. Of the prisoners in police gaols, 26 were males and 7 were females. No females are received into the penal establishments.

Imports and exports, 1875.

72. The total value of the imports in 1875 was 16,685,874*l.*, and that of the exports 14,766,974*l.* The excess of imports over exports was thus 1,918,900*l.*, and the total value of external trade was 31,452,848*l.*

Imports and exports, 1874 and 1875, compared.

73. The imports were less in value by 268,111*l.* than those in 1874. The exports were less by 674,135*l.* than those in that year.

Years in which imports and exports, 1875, have been exceeded.

74. A glance at the statistical summary which precedes this digest will show that the imports in 1875 have been exceeded in value by those in 1854 and 1874 only, but that the exports in 1875 were exceeded in value by those in 1856, 1857, 1868, 1873, and 1874.

Imports and exports per head.

75. The imports per head in the year under review were, with the exception of those in the six years 1868 to 1872, less than they were in any of the other years since Victoria has been an independent Colony. The exports per head were less in 1875 than in any other year since 1851, except 1870. The following

* To make up the numbers in this column, a prisoner is reckoned afresh each time he is transferred from one gaol or penal establishment to another.

are the values of imports and exports per head of living population in the 11 years ended with 1875:—

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	—	Imports per Head.			Exports per Head.		
		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
1865	-	21	10	2	21	6	8
1866	-	23	5	11	20	6	7
1867	-	17	19	4	19	11	8
1868	-	19	16	11	23	4	8
1869	-	19	19	2	19	6	5
1870	-	17	10	11	17	11	4
1871	-	16	14	2	19	14	2
1872	-	17	19	10	18	4	7
1873	-	21	3	9	19	12	2
1874	-	21	4	7	19	6	8
1875	-	20	9	6	18	2	4

76. The value of the imports from and exports to the United Kingdom, the neighbouring Colonies, other British possessions, the United States, and other foreign countries, and the per-centages of such values to the total imports and exports, are given in the following table:—

Imports and Exports from and to different Countries.

Countries.	Imports therefrom.		Exports thereto.	
	Value.	Per-centage.	Value.	Per-centage.
The United Kingdom	7,809,285	46.82	6,980,983	47.27
New South Wales	4,209,820	25.23	1,551,608	10.51
Queensland	106,146	.63	95,115	7.12
South Australia	231,521	1.39	481,650	.64
Western Australia	4,756	.03	59,360	3.26
Tasmania	275,118	1.65	386,589	2.62
New Zealand	1,062,238	6.36	1,051,341	.40
Other British Possessions	1,060,089	6.95	4,007,043	27.14
The United States	353,141	2.11	103,041	.70
Other Foreign States	1,473,760	8.83	50,244	.34
Total	16,685,874	100.00	14,766,974	100.00

77. The following are the values of 20 of the principal articles imported, and of certain articles, 18 in number, exported in the year under review:—

Imports of principal Articles, 1875.

£

Apparel and slops	-	-	-	-	345,342
Bags and sacks	-	-	-	-	172,404
Beer and cider	-	-	-	-	173,774
Boots and shoes	-	-	-	-	202,532
Coals	-	-	-	-	263,267
Cottons	-	-	-	-	575,134
Gold (exclusive of specie)	-	-	-	-	869,419

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	£
Grain (including rice) -	616,582
Haberdashery and drapery -	361,796
Iron and steel -	733,000
Live stock -	1,145,751
Oil -	234,435
Silks -	231,775
Specie -	143,965
Spirits -	375,339
Sugar and molasses -	1,040,410
Tea -	749,368
Tobacco, cigars, and snuff -	235,709
Wool -	2,310,477
Woollens -	898,073

Exports of certain Articles, 1875.

Apparel and slops -	173,080
Black sand (tin ore) -	5,022
Bones and bonedust -	14,000
Boots and shoes -	76,047
Drapery -	160,249
Flour and biscuit -	35,593
Gold (exclusive of specie) -	3,177,905
Grain -	75,585
Hides, skins, and pelts -	50,454
Horns and hoofs -	3,153
Leather -	248,503
Provisions (preserved and salted) -	140,622
Specie -	1,486,678
Sugar -	322,619
Tallow -	203,243
Tea -	248,224
Tobacco, cigars, and snuff -	199,224
Wool -	6,096,958

Customs revenue, 1875.

78. The Customs revenue in 1875 showed a falling off, as compared with that in 1874, to the extent of 84,003*l.* The following are the figures:—

Customs Revenue, 1874 and 1875.

Head of Receipt.	Year ended 31st December	
	1874.	1875.
Import duties -	£ 1,779,288	£ 1,691,584
Duties on spirits distilled in Victoria -	32,833	32,726
Ports and harbours -	19,954	22,171
Fees -	6,321	7,068
Fines and forfeitures -	168	1,511
Miscellaneous -	9,648	9,149
Total -	1,848,212	1,764,209

79. The following are the numbers of Colonial, British, and foreign vessels entered and cleared in the Colony during the year under notice, together with their tonnage and crews:—

VICTORIA.
—
Nationality of vessels.

Nationality of Vessels entered and cleared.

Nationality.	Vessels entered.			Vessels cleared.		
	Number.	Tons.	Men.	Number.	Tons.	Men.
Colonial -	1,781	483,880	25,679	1,869	505,691	26,442
British -	296	297,127	11,708	268	274,245	10,859
Foreign -	94	59,379	1,294	86	53,563	1,153
Total -	2,171	840,386	38,681	2,223	833,499	38,454

80. The tonnage of vessels was higher in the year under notice than in any other year since the first settlement of Port Phillip, but the number of vessels was exceeded slightly in 1869 and 1873, and was exactly equalled in 1871.

81. In 1875 only about 3 per cent. of the vessels, and less than 1 per cent. of the tonnage inwards, arrived in ballast. In the same year 33 per cent. of the vessels, and 28 per cent. of the tonnage outwards, left in ballast.

82. The only vessels built in Victoria are a few small craft. In the year under notice 24 such were launched, nine of which were steamers, and 15 were sailing vessels, viz., one barge, eight cutters, and six schooners. The aggregate tonnage of the steamers was 1,406, or an average of 156 tons to each vessel; that of the sailing vessels was 356, or an average of about 24 to each. In the 10 years prior to the year under notice, 23 steamers and 51 sailing vessels were built, the tonnage of the former being 1,668, that of the latter being 3,801.

83. The vessels on the register at the end of 1875 numbered 458, viz., 61 steamers and 397 sailing vessels. The former in the aggregate measured 12,656 tons, and carried 865 men, and the latter measured 61,228 tons, and carried 2,564 men.

84. The following figures show the number of post offices throughout the Colony, and the number of letters, packets, and newspapers which passed through them in the last two years. A satisfactory increase is to be observed in all the items.

Postage, 1874 and 1875.

Year.	Number of Post Offices.	Numbers despatched and received of			
		Letters.	Newspapers.	Packets.	Total.
1874 -	802	15,738,888	6,866,918	1,269,822	23,875,628
1875 -	855	17,184,101	7,552,912	1,528,493	26,215,506
Increase -	53	1,895,213	685,994	258,671	2,339,878

VICTORIA. 85. About a fourth of the post offices are also money order offices. At each of these offices money orders are issued in favour of any other money order office in Victoria, and in favour of Great Britain, and the other Australasian Colonies, and money orders issued at such places are also paid at each Victorian office. An increase took place in 1875 in the number of offices, in the number of orders issued, and the number and amount of orders paid; but a slight falling off occurred in the amount remitted by means of the money orders issued. The following is a comparative statement of the business in the last two years:—

Money Orders, 1874 and 1875.

Year.	Number of Money Order Offices.	Money Orders Issued.		Money Orders Paid.	
		Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.
1874 -	216	119,542	£ 374,076	116,418	£ 379,748
1875 -	224	121,094	378,436	121,924	393,383
Increase -	8	1,552	—	5,506	18,635
Decrease -	—	—	640	—	—

Electric telegraphs.

86. The telegraph lines in Victoria extend over upwards of 2,600 miles, and the wires measure more than 4,500 miles. They are connected with the lines of New South Wales, and by means of them with Queensland and New Zealand. They are also connected with the lines of South Australia, and by means of them with the Eastern Archipelago, Asia, and Europe. They are likewise connected with a submarine cable to Tasmania. As compared with 1874, an increase took place in the number of stations, the length of lines, the number of paid telegrams, and the amount received; but a decrease in the number of unpaid telegrams. The following are the results of the year under notice and the previous one:—

Electric Telegraph, 1874 and 1875.

Year.	Number of Stations.	Number of miles of		Number of Telegrams			Amount Received.
		Line (poles).	Wire.	Paid.	Unpaid.	Total.	
1874 -	148	2,467	4,293	579,795	121,285	701,080	£ 42,825
1875 -	164	2,629	4,510	623,514	109,355	732,869	46,995
Increase -	16	162	217	43,719	—	31,789	4,170
Decrease -	—	—	—	—	11,930	—	—

87. The number of miles of railway open at the end of 1875 was $616\frac{1}{2}$, of which $599\frac{1}{2}$ —viz., $163\frac{3}{4}$ miles of double and $436\frac{1}{2}$ miles of single line—belonged to the State, and 17 —viz., $9\frac{3}{4}$ miles of double and $7\frac{1}{4}$ miles of single line—belonged to the Melbourne and Hobson's Bay United Railway Company. Negotiations have for some time past been in progress with the object of the purchase of the interests of this company by the Government. All the lines are constructed upon a gauge of 5 ft. 3 in., which is also the national gauge of South Australia, but not of New South Wales, in which colony a 4 ft. $8\frac{1}{2}$ in. gauge has been adopted.

88. Further lines of railway, of a proposed total length of $357\frac{1}{2}$ miles, were in course of construction by the State at the end of 1875.

89. The following is a statement of the number of miles open and the number of miles travelled on Government and private lines during the last two years. As regards the Government lines it must be borne in mind that in both years only a portion of the extent set down as open was so during the whole year.

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Railways,
length, gauges,
&c.

Railways.—Miles open and travelled, 1874 and 1875.

Year.*	Government Lines.		Private Lines.		Total.	
	Extent open.	Distance travelled.	Extent open.	Distance travelled.	Extent open.	Distance travelled.
1874	Miles. 440 $\frac{1}{2}$	Miles. 1,667,124	Miles. 17	Miles. 442,108	Miles. 457 $\frac{1}{2}$	Miles. 2,109,227
1875	586	2,051,710	17	451,128	603	2,502,888
Increase	145 $\frac{1}{2}$	384,586	—	9,025	145 $\frac{1}{2}$	393,611

90. The rates of wages in Melbourne are quoted as follow for Wages the year 1875:—

Wages in Melbourne, 1875.

Description of Labour.				1875.
AGRICULTURAL LABOUR.				
Farm labourers	—	—	— per week, with rations	12s. 6d. to 20s.
Ploughmen	—	—	— " "	20s. to 25s.
Reapers	—	—	— per acre	12s. to 15s.
Mowers	—	—	— "	3s. to 5s.
Threshers	—	—	— per bushel	5d. to 7d.
PASTORAL LABOUR.				
Shepherds	—	—	— per annum, with rations	35l. to 52l.
Stockkeepers	—	—	— " "	40l. to 65l.
Hutkeepers	—	—	— " "	24l. to 40l.
Generally useful men on stations	—	— per week	— " "	15s. to 20s.
Sheepwashers	—	—	— " "	15s. to 25s.
Shearers	—	—	{ per 100 sheep sheared, with rations. }	11s. to 15s.

* The results for Government lines are brought down to the 30th June, and for private lines to the 31st December of the years named.

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	Description of Labour.	1875.
ARTIZAN LABOUR.		
Masons -	- - - per day, without rations	11s. to 12s.
Plasterers -	- - - " " -	10s.
Bricklayers -	- - - " " -	10s.
Carpenters -	- - - " " -	10s.
Blacksmiths -	- - - " " -	10s. to 13s.
SERVANTS—MALES AND MARRIED COUPLES.		
Married couples, without family	{ per annum, with board and lodging	60 <i>l.</i> to 80 <i>l.</i>
Married couples, with family	{ " " " -	40 <i>l.</i> to 50 <i>l.</i>
Men cooks, on farms and stations	{ " " " -	40 <i>l.</i> to 52 <i>l.</i>
Grooms -	- - per week	45 <i>l.</i> to 60 <i>l.</i>
Gardeners -	- - per week	20 <i>s.</i> to 40 <i>s.</i>
SERVANTS—FEMALES.		
Cooks -	- per annum, with board and lodging	35 <i>l.</i> to 60 <i>l.</i>
Laundresses -	- " " " -	30 <i>l.</i> to 40 <i>l.</i>
General servants -	- " " " -	26 <i>l.</i> to 35 <i>l.</i>
Housemaids -	- " " " -	25 <i>l.</i> to 35 <i>l.</i>
Nursemaids -	- " " " -	20 <i>l.</i> to 35 <i>l.</i>
MISCELLANEOUS LABOUR.		
General labourers -	- per day, without rations	6 <i>s.</i> to 7 <i>s.</i>
Stone-breakers -	- per cubic yard, without rations	2 <i>s.</i> to 3 <i>s.</i> 6 <i>d.</i>
Seamen -	- per month, with rations	5 <i>l.</i> to 6 <i>l.</i>
Miners -	- per week, without rations	2 <i>l.</i> to 2 <i>l.</i> 10 <i>s.</i>

Prices.

91. The following may be quoted as the average prices of the chief articles of consumption in Melbourne during 1875:—

Articles.	1875.	Articles.	1875.
AGRICULTURAL PRODUCE.			
Wheat -	- per bushl.	4 <i>s.</i> 6 <i>d.</i> to 6 <i>s.</i> 9 <i>d.</i>	
Barley -	- "	3 <i>s.</i> 2 <i>d.</i> to 6 <i>s.</i> 6 <i>d.</i>	
Oats -	- "	3 <i>s.</i> to 5 <i>s.</i> 3 <i>d.</i>	
Maize -	- "	4 <i>s.</i> 4 <i>d.</i> to 6 <i>s.</i> 6 <i>d.</i>	
Bran -	- "	1 <i>s.</i> 3 <i>d.</i> to 1 <i>s.</i> 8 <i>d.</i>	
Hay -	- per ton	3 <i>l.</i> 10 <i>s.</i> to 5 <i>l.</i> 10 <i>s.</i>	
Flour, first quality	{ per 4 lb.	10 <i>l.</i> 5 <i>s.</i> to 13 <i>l.</i> 15 <i>s.</i>	
Bread -	{ loaf	6 <i>d.</i> to 7 <i>d.</i>	
DAIRY PRODUCE.			
Butter—			10 <i>d.</i> to 1 <i>s.</i> 10 <i>d.</i>
Colonial, retail	per lb.		
Imported salt,			10 <i>d.</i> to 1 <i>s.</i>
wholesale -	{ "	"	
Cheese—			
Colonial, retail	"		10 <i>d.</i> to 1 <i>s.</i> 4 <i>d.</i>
Imported,			1 <i>s.</i> 4 <i>d.</i>
wholesale -	{ "	"	
Milk -	- per quart		4 <i>d.</i> to 6 <i>d.</i>
FARM YARD PRODUCE.			
Geese -	- per couple		8 <i>s.</i> to 12 <i>s.</i>
Ducks -	- "		5 <i>s.</i> to 7 <i>s.</i> 6 <i>d.</i>
Fowls -	- "		5 <i>s.</i> to 7 <i>s.</i>
Rabbits -	- "		1 <i>s.</i> to 4 <i>s.</i>
Pigeons -	- "		1 <i>s.</i> 6 <i>d.</i> to 3 <i>s.</i>
Turkeys -	- each		6 <i>s.</i> to 15 <i>s.</i>
Suckling pigs -	- per lb.		12 <i>s.</i> to 18 <i>s.</i>
Bacon -	- per lb.		1 <i>s.</i> to 1 <i>s.</i> 2 <i>d.</i>
Ham -	- per doz.		1 <i>s.</i> 2 <i>d.</i> to 1 <i>s.</i> 4 <i>d.</i>
Eggs -	- per doz.		10 <i>d.</i> to 2 <i>s.</i> 8 <i>d.</i>
GARDEN PRODUCE.			
Potatoes—			
Wholesale -	- per ton		3 <i>l.</i> to 10 <i>l.</i>
Retail -	- per lb.		4 <i>d.</i> to 1 <i>d.</i>

Articles.	1875.	Articles.	1875.	VICTORIA.
Onions, dried	- per cwt.	6s. to 12s.	Salt -	- per ton
Carrots	- { per doz. } bunches	6d. to 9d.	Coals -	- "
Turnips	- "	4d. to 1s.	Firewood -	- "
Radishes	- "	4d. to 6d.		12s. to 13s.
Cabbages	- per doz.	4d. to 4s.		
Cauliflowers	- "	1s. to 4s.		
Lettuces	- "	3d. to 9d.		
Green peas	- per lb.	1d. to 4d.		
MISCELLANEOUS ARTICLES.				
Tea (duty paid)	- per lb.	7d. to 3s.	WINES, SPIRITS, &c.	
Coffee (in bond)	- per lb.	10d. to 1s. 2d.	Ale (duty paid)	- per hhd.
Sugar (duty paid)	per ton	20l. to 38l. 10s.	"	- per doz.
Rice -	- per ton	18l. to 27l. 10s.	Porter "	- per hhd.
Tobacco (in bond)	per lb.	9d. to 3s.	"	- per doz.
Soap -	Colonial -	20l. to 30l.	Brandy (in bond)	per gall.
Candles -	- per ton		Rum "	- "
Tallow -	- per lb.	4d. to 5d.	Whiskey "	- "
Sperm -	- "	8d. to 11d.	Hollands "	- per pipe
			Port wine (in bond)	- per pipe
			Port wine (duty paid)	- per doz.
			Sherry (in bond)	- per butt
			" (duty paid)	per doz.
			Claret "	10s. 9d. to 80s.
			Champagne "	26s. 9d. to 100s.

92. The price of gold varies in different districts according to Price of gold. its purity. In the last quarter of 1875 the lowest price quoted (3l. per oz.) was in the Beechworth district, but some gold in the same district was stated to have realised as much as 4l. 2s. 6d. per ounce. The highest average was in the Ballarat district, in which the prices ranged from 3l. 17s. to 4l. 3s.; the lowest average was in the Gippsland district, in which the prices ranged from 3l. 5s. to 4l.

93. The weights and measures used in Victoria are in every Weights and respect the same as those in use in the United Kingdom. measures.

94. The number of churches, chapels, and other buildings used for public worship, the persons they were calculated to hold and usually attending, and the approximate number of services performed in the last two years were as follow:—

Churches, &c.

Year.	Buildings used for Public Worship.			Number of Services performed.
	Number.	Persons for whom there is Accommodation.	Persons usually attending.	
1874 - -	2,455	403,126	285,601	199,166
1875 - -	2,467	407,102	286,517	204,811
Increase -	12	3,976	916	5,645

95. The buildings used for church purposes by the different Church buildings, religious sects, and the accommodation they afforded, were as follows, 1875. follow in the year under review:—

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Church Buildings, 1875.

Religious Denomination.	Buildings used for Public Worship.	Persons for whom there is Accommodation.
Church of England -	409	64,505
Roman Catholics -	847	87,125
Presbyterians -	599	73,385
Wesleyans -	816	132,114
Independents -	112	16,898
Baptists -	74	14,655
Evangelical Lutherans -	41	5,000
Welsh Calvinists -	4	550
Church of Christ -	35	7,100
Other Christians -	20	3,510
Jews -	7	1,410
Other sects -	3	850
Total	2,467	407,102

Sabbath schools, 1875.

96. The following is the number of Sunday or Sabbath schools connected with the same denominations, also the number of teachers and scholars:—

Sabbath Schools, 1875.

Religious Denomination.	Sabbath Schools.	Teachers.	Scholars.
Church of England -	271	2,153	19,620
Roman Catholics -	205	1,212	24,048
Presbyterians -	315	2,327	26,376
Wesleyans -	478	4,977	33,936
Independents -	54	640	4,706
Baptists -	56	515	4,642
Evangelical Lutherans -	13	45	470
Welsh Calvinists -	2	14	103
Church of Christ -	16	148	1,155
Other Christians -	9	37	353
Jews -	6	16	329
Other sects -	3	26	166
Total	1,428	12,110	115,904

University students attending lectures.

97. The students attending lectures at the Melbourne University during 1875 numbered 199, of whom all but 4 were matriculated. Of these students, 56 attended lectures in arts, 60 in laws, 28 in engineering, and 55 in medicine.

University matriculated students.

98. From the first opening of the university to the end of the year under notice, 923 persons matriculated. Of these, 93 matriculated within the year under notice.

University graduates.

99. The number of graduates during 1875 was 34, of which 29 took direct and 5 ad eundem degrees. The graduates since the first opening of the university have been as follow:—

Melbourne University. Graduates, 1855-1875.

VICTORIA.

Degrees.	Direct.	Ad eundem.	Total.
Bachelor of Arts -	102	49	151
Master of Arts -	61	64	125
Bachelor of Medicine -	26	6	32
Doctor of Medicine -	11	57	68
Bachelor of Laws -	38	5	43
Doctor of Laws -	1	10	11
Total -	239	191	430

100. The number of schools receiving aid from the State, the Public schools, number of teachers employed, and the number of scholars on the roll and usually attending were as follow during the year 1875:—

State Schools, 1874 and 1875.

Year.	Number of Schools.	Number of Instructors.	Number of Scholars.	
			On the Rolls.	In average Attendance.
1874 -	1,111	3,715	216,144	104,375
1875 -	1,320	3,826	220,533	101,495
Increase -	219	111	3,389	—
Decrease -	—	—	—	2,880

101. The diminished attendance of scholars is probably owing to the epidemics of measles and scarlatina which prevailed in 1875, in consequence of which many of the schools were closed at various periods during the year. The following are the returns of private schools during the same two years:—

Private Schools, 1874 and 1875.

—	Number of Schools.	Number of Instructors.	Number of Scholars.
1874 - - -	610	1,509	22,448
1875 - - -	572	1,461	24,416
Increase - - -	—	—	1,968
Decrease - - -	38	48	—

102. The public and private schools together numbered 1,892 in 1875, the instructors in the two classes of schools numbered 5,287, and the scholars, if the State school children on the rolls be taken, numbered 244,949, and if the average attendance be taken numbered 125,911.

103. Five of the private schools are called colleges or grammar schools. Two of these are connected with the Church of England, one with the Presbyterian, one with the Wesleyan Methodist, and

Reasons of diminished attendance.

Private schools.

VICTORIA. one with the Roman Catholic Church. Sums amounting in all to 32,500*l.* were granted by the State to these institutions in former years in aid of building, but no present assistance is given them by Government. The masters or professors in 1875 numbered 50, and the scholars 1,009, of whom 239 were boarders.

Melbourne Public Library. 104. The Melbourne Public Library was erected at a cost of 110,000*l.* Up to the end of the year under review it had received aid from Government to the extent of 232,000*l.*, and donations of books, maps, &c. from private individuals valued at 11,000*l.* It contained 87,580 volumes in 1875, and was visited during that year by 239,617 persons. No charge is made for admission.

Mechanics' institutes, &c. 105. Free libraries or mechanics' institutes exist in all towns of any importance in the Colony. Such institutions to the number of 138 sent in returns for 1875. They possessed in the aggregate 185,008 volumes. Only 72 of them kept records of the number of visits paid, and these to those institutions numbered 1,163,208 during the year.

Technological Museum. 106. The Technological Museum is in the same building as the Melbourne Public Library, and is open to the public daily. Class lectures are held in connexion with this institution, those on chemistry being attended during the year by 16 students, those on mining and mineralogy by 10 students, and those on telegraphy by 29 students, of whom all but 5 were females.

National Gallery. 107. The National Gallery is also in the Melbourne Public Library building. It contains 73 oil paintings, 159 statues, &c., and 5,687 water-colour drawings, engravings, and photographs; the school of painting in connexion with this institution was attended in 1875 by 7 males and 34 females, and the school of design by 45 males and 107 females.

National Museum. 108. The National Museum is attached to the Melbourne University. It contains minerals, stuffed birds and animals, and other objects of curiosity, and was visited in 1875 by 99,390 persons.

Charitable institutions, accommodation, &c. 109. The following are the principal charitable institutions existing in Victoria, together with the amount of accommodation they afford, and the number of inmates and deaths during the year under review:—

Charitable Institutions, 1875.—Accommodation and Relief.

Name of Institution.	Number of Institutions.	Wards or Rooms.		Number of Beds.	Number of Inmates during the Year.	Number of Deaths in the Year.
		Number.	Capacity in Cubic Feet.			
Hospitals -	32	230	2,246,963	1,987	14,477	1,485
Benevolent asylums -	6	153	1,061,975	1,555	11,912	266
Orphan asylums -	7	68	708,590	1,152	1,262	24
Total -	45	451	4,017,528	4,694	27,651	1,775

110. In the hospitals, 1 death occurred during the year to every 10 inmates, in the benevolent asylums, 1 death to every 45 inmates, and in the orphan asylums, 1 death to every 53 inmates.

111. The following are the receipts and expenditure of the same institutions:—

VICTORIA.
Deaths in charitable institutions.

Charitable institutions, receipts and expenditure.

Charitable Institutions, 1875.—Receipts and Expenditure.

Name of Institution.	Receipts			Expenditure.
	From Government.	From other Sources.	Total.	
Hospitals -	£ 60,307	£ 39,095	£ 99,402	£ 106,682
Benevolent asylums -	25,000	14,285	39,285	41,200
Orphan asylums -	12,661	7,084	19,745	19,137
Total -	97,968	60,464	158,432	167,019

112. Sixty-one per cent. of the receipts of hospitals, 64 per cent. of the receipts of benevolent asylums, and 64 per cent. of the receipts of orphan asylums, were derived from Government grants.

113. The Victorian School for the Blind makes up 100 beds; 102 persons passed through this institution in the year. The receipts amounted to 3,315*l.*, of which 925*l.* was granted by Government.

114. The Deaf and Dumb Asylum makes up 66 beds, 18 of which are double. The institution accommodated 84 inmates during the year, and received in all 3,670*l.*, of which Government granted 1,736*l.*

115. The persons who passed through the Eye and Ear Hospital in 1875 numbered 171. The receipts amounted to 1,117*l.*, of which 200*l.* was from Government. This institution makes up 39 beds.

116. The Retreat for Inebriates received during the year 1,620*l.*, of which 500*l.* was from Government. 42 persons passed through this institution during the year.

117. The other charitable institutions which furnished returns for 1875 were 3 homœopathic and 2 allopathic free dispensaries, 34 ladies' benevolent societies, and 4 refuges for fallen women.

118. The land alienated from the Crown in fee simple during the year 1875 amounted to 418,561 acres. Of this extent 83,397 acres or about a fifth, was disposed of by auction; the remainder, amounting to 335,164 acres, was in the first instance selected under the deferred payment system.* No Crown lands were granted without purchase during the year.

* For an account of the changes which have taken place in the mode of disposing of Crown lands in Victoria, see "Victorian Year Book, 1874," paragraphs 366 to 370.

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Crown lands sold, 1836 to 1875.

Crown lands selected.

Public estate, 1875.

119. The total area sold up to the end of the year was 10,347,949 acres, the area granted without purchase was 3,245 acres, the total extent alienated in fee simple was thus 10,351,194 acres.

120. The selected lands, of which the purchase had not been completed up to the end of the year, amounted to 6,498,749 acres. Of this extent it is estimated that 500,000 acres had been forfeited to the Crown for non-fulfilment of conditions. The remainder, representing the whole area in process of alienation under deferred payments, amounted to 5,998,749 acres.

121. The following table shows the condition of the public estate of Victoria at the end of 1875:—

Public Estate of Victoria on 31st December 1875.

Condition of Land.	Number of Acres.
Land alienated in fee simple -	10,351,194
Land in process of alienation under deferred payments	5,998,749
Roads in connexion with the above	842,502
Land included in towns, &c.	289,207
Reserves in connexion with pastoral occupation, about	350,000
Auriferous lands, about	1,150,000
State forests not included in unavailable mountain ranges	215,100
Timber reserves	363,015
Mallee Scrub, unavailable mountain ranges, lakes, lagoons, &c., about	23,000,000
Area available for selection at end of 1875	13,936,953
 Total area of Victoria	 56,446,720

Land available for selection.

122. It thus appears that the total extent of land suitable for occupation within the limits of Victoria is 33,446,720 acres, and of this area nearly 14,000,000 of acres, or 42 per cent., were still available for selection at the end of 1875.

Amount realised on land sales, 1875.

123. The total amounts realised for Crown lands sold during the year was 630,054*l.* or at the rate of 1*l.* 10*s.* 1*½d.* per acre. The land sold by auction fetched 291,231*l.* or at the rate of 3*l.* 9*s.* 10*d.* per acre, and the land sold otherwise than at auction realised 338,823*l.* or at the rate of 1*l.* 0*s.* 2*½d.* per acre.

Amount realised, 1836 to 1875.

124. The amount realised for the sale of Crown lands from the first settlement of the Colony to the end of the year under review was 17,416,200*l.*, or at the rate of 1*l.* 13*s.* 8*d.* per acre.

Squatting runs, number and area.

125. The squatting runs in 1875 numbered 865, or one more than in 1874. The area embraced in runs amounted in 1875 to 22,967,639 acres, or 1,262,489 acres more than in 1874.

Squatting runs, average area.

126. The average size of runs was 28,044 acres in 1874, and 26,552 acres in 1875.

Rent of runs.

127. In 1874 the rent paid for runs amounted to 125,938*l.*, or at the rate of 1*·* 24*7d.* per acre. In 1875 it amounted to 139,304*l.*, or at the rate of 1*·* 45*6d.* per acre.

128. The following is a statement of the number of holdings, and of the extent of land occupied, enclosed, and cultivated in the year under review and the previous one. An increase is observed in all the items.

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Land occupied,
enclosed, and
cultivated.

Holdings and Land Enclosed and Cultivated, 1875 to 1876.*

Year ended 31st March	Number of Holdings larger than One Acre.	Acres occupied.	Acres enclosed.	Acres under Tillage.
1875 - -	38,468	12,264,576	11,281,142	1,011,776
1876 - -	40,852	13,084,233	12,105,197	1,126,831
Increase -	2,384	819,657	824,055	115,055

129. The next table shows the extent of land under the principal crops in the same two years. It will be observed that a falling off took place in the land under wheat, but an increase in that under each of the other crops.

Land under Principal Crops, 1875 and 1876.

Year ended 31st March	Wheat.	Oats.	Barley.	Potatoes.	Hay.	Green Forage.
1875 - -	Acres. 382,936	Acres. 114,921	Acres. 29,505	Acres. 35,183	Acres. 119,031	Acres. 254,329
1876 - -	321,401	124,100	31,568	36,901	155,274	308,405
Increase -	—	9,179	2,063	1,718	36,243	54,076
Decrease -	11,535	—	—	—	—	—

130. Notwithstanding the diminished acreage under wheat, as shown in the last table, the superior productiveness of the season resulted in an increased number of bushels of wheat being raised as well as an increase in the yield of each of the other principal crops.

Gross Produce of Principal Crops, 1875 and 1876.

Year ended 31st March	Wheat.	Oats.	Barley.	Potatoes.	Hay.
1875 - -	Bushels. 4,850,165	Bushels. 2,121,612	Bushels. 619,896	Tons. 124,310	Tons. 157,261
1876 - -	4,978,914	2,719,795	700,665	124,377	206,613
Increase -	128,749	598,183	80,769	67	49,352

* The holdings and land referred to are exclusive of Crown lands held under squatting licenses.

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—
Average produce.

131. The average produce of the various crops has been much greater in some years than in others. The most favourable year of the last 11 years for cereals and for hay was 1867, in which the acreable yield of wheat was $22\frac{1}{4}$ bushels, that of oats and of barley was 30 bushels, and that of hay was $1\frac{4}{5}$ tons. The best year for potatoes was 1875, when the yield was on the average 3.53 tons to the acre. The least favourable year for cereals was 1871, when wheat averaged only 10 bushels, oats 15 bushels, and barley $12\frac{1}{4}$ bushels to the acre. The worst year for hay was 1866, when the yield was barely a ton to the acre; and the worst year for potatoes was 1869, when the yield was not more than $2\frac{1}{5}$ tons to the acre. The following are the averages of those crops during each of the last 10 years:—

Average Produce of Principal Crops, 1866–1876.

Year ended 31st March	Average Produce per Acre of				
	Wheat.	Oats.	Barley.	Potatoes.	Hay.
	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Tons.	Tons.
1866	19.70	22.17	22.29	2.65	.98
1867	22.25	30.01	30.18	2.74	1.74
1868	15.72	18.61	20.32	3.29	1.30
1869	16.28	19.65	15.23	2.21	1.09
1870	19.75	25.98	24.55	3.99	1.60
1871	10.10	14.98	12.26	3.27	1.13
1872	13.45	18.76	20.00	3.22	1.40
1873	16.51	19.55	20.86	3.45	1.32
1874	13.58	15.69	19.84	2.86	1.27
1875	14.57	18.46	21.01	3.53	1.32
1876	15.49	21.92	22.20	3.37	1.33
Average of 11 years	16.18	20.53	20.79	3.06	1.32

Average produce mean of 11 years.

132. The acreable yield of all the cereals in the year under review exceeded that in the former year. The yield of wheat, however, was scarcely up to the average of the 11 years, but the yield of both oats and barley was in excess of that average. The yield of potatoes was not up to the average of the former year, but was above that of the 11 years. The average yield of hay exceeded by a fraction that of the former year, and that of the whole period of 11 years.

Proportion of land under each crop.

133. The following are the proportions which the land under each of the principal crops has borne to the total land under cultivation in the last two years. It will be observed that in proportion to the total cultivation, hay and green forage covered a larger area, and each of the other crops a smaller area in the latter year than in the former.

Proportion of Land under each Crop, 1875 and 1876.

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Name of Crop.	1874-5.	1875-6.
	Per cent.	Per cent.
Wheat	32.90	28.52
Oats	11.36	11.01
Barley	2.92	2.80
Potatoes	3.48	3.27
Hay	11.76	13.78
Green forage	25.14	27.37
Other tillage	12.44	13.25
Total	100.00	100.00

134. Other crops less important than those already named are Minor crops. grown to a certain extent in Victoria. Some of these are raised in gardens and on lots smaller than those which the collectors are called upon to visit, and therefore the full extent to which they are cultivated does not appear. These embrace maize, rye and bere, mangel-wurzel, pease and beans, millet, hops, opium, poppies, grasses of different kinds for seed, osiers for basket-making, mulberries for feeding silk-worms, tobacco, &c. The total area returned under such crops was 29,207 acres in 1875-6.

135. Not included in these are vines, which covered 4,937 acres Vines. in 1874-5, and 5,081 acres in 1875-6. The wine produced amounted to 577,493 gallons in the former, and to 755,000 gallons in the latter year.

136. Gardens and orchards covered 17,400 acres in 1874-5, Gardens and orchards. and 17,761 acres in 1875-6.

137. The following table shows the number of holdings of various sizes, and the extent of occupied and cultivated land embraced therein, according to the returns of the year under notice. It must be borne in mind that this table, in common with all others based upon the agricultural statistics, does not contain any account of holdings which are not over an acre in extent, nor of any land which does not appear to be in *bonâ fide* occupation with someone living on or near the ground, nor of any which is occupied for other purposes than agriculture, or the keeping of live stock, nor of any Crown lands held under pastoral licenses. It should, moreover, be remarked that each distinct occupation is considered to constitute a holding without reference to its proprietorship, also that each of several holdings in different localities occupied or owned by one person is necessarily reckoned as a distinct holding.

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Classification of Holdings as to size, 1875-6.

Size of Holdings.	Number of Holdings.	Extent of sold or selected Land in Occupation.	Extent of Land under Tillage.
1 acre to 4 acres	1,511	Acres.	Acres.
5 acres 14 "	3,419	4,413	2,488
15 " 29 "	3,825	30,101	13,492
30 " 49 "	3,279	78,986	24,747
50 " 99 "	5,981	125,921	34,608
100 " 199 "	7,774	431,090	96,445
200 " 320 "	10,437	1,095,653	204,276
321 " 400 "	1,165	2,955,535	340,467
401 " 500 "	860	412,402	64,192
501 " 600 "	527	387,895	57,889
601 " 700 "	441	291,184	39,624
701 " 800 "	225	284,586	27,860
801 " 900 "	163	169,166	18,734
901 " 1,000 "	154	139,377	13,962
1,001 " 1,500 "	328	147,065	16,808
1,500 " 2,000 "	156	397,611	27,738
2,001 " 3,000 "	155	271,726	17,026
3,001 " 4,000 "	79	384,489	23,922
4,001 " 5,000 "	54	278,190	7,497
5,000 " 7,500 "	73	246,543	7,514
7,500 " 10,000 "	49	442,039	20,964
10,001 " 15,000 "	79	428,524	9,526
15,000 " 20,000 "	42	992,145	15,995
20,001 " 30,000 "	48	741,454	6,322
30,001 " 40,000 "	18	1,193,006	27,734
40,001 " and upwards	10	608,042	5,533
Total	40,852	547,090	1,468
		13,084,233	1,126,831

Average size of holdings.

138. The average size of holdings was 319 acres in 1874-5 and 320 acres in 1875-6. In 1869-70 the average size of holdings was 293 acres, and since then there has been a gradual increase from year to year.

Area occupied per head.

139. The average area in occupation to each person in the Colony was 12.4 acres in 1869-70. Since then there has been an increase each year, the average to each person in 1875-6 being 15.9 acres.

Area cultivated per holder.

140. The average area cultivated by each occupier was 27.6 acres in 1875-6, as against 26.3 acres in 1874-5.

Area cultivated per head of the population.

141. The area cultivated to each person in the Colony was 1.37 acres in the year under review, and 1.25 acres in the previous year.

Occupied land cultivated.

142. In 1874-5 8.4 per cent., and in 1875-6 8.3 per cent., of the occupied land was in cultivation.

Hands employed on farms, &c.

143. An increase, according to the returns, took place in the number of persons employed in agricultural and pastoral pursuits in 1875-6 as compared with 1874-5. The following are the

figures of the two years. The proprietor or manager of the farm or station is included amongst the hands employed:—

Hands employed on Farms and Stations, 1875 and 1876.*

Year ended 31st March	Hands Employed on Farms.			Hands Employed on Stations.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
1875 - - -	56,520	25,231	81,751	4,638	1,275	5,913
1876 - - -	61,273	27,446	88,719	4,669	1,339	6,008
Increase - - -	4,753	2,215	6,968	31	64	95

144. The following is an estimate of the live stock on land not Live stock. attached to or held in connexion with squatting stations and on squatting stations during the last two years. A large increase upon the numbers of each description of stock will be observed in the total figures, and upon those kept on land not attached to stations, but a slight falling off in those upon stations. The live stock on farms is returned by the collectors of agricultural statistics, who are instructed to supplement the information they obtain at the holdings they visit, with estimates of the stock running on commons, or that kept by persons having allotments of less than an acre in extent of that stalled and stabled in towns and villages and of that belonging to wood-carters traversing their districts. For some of the larger towns the collectors have been unable to furnish estimates, and for these the census figures have been taken. The return of stock on stations has been compiled, as far as possible, from estimates furnished by the squatters in reply to inquiries made by the Government Statist. In a considerable number of instances, however, these inquiries have not been responded to, and in these cases it has been necessary to supply the particulars from the returns of former years. Every endeavour is made to give as true a statement as possible of the numbers of all the stock in the Colony, but it is necessary to point out that portion of the information is derived from estimates which can only be verified at a general census.

* The word "farm," as used in connexion with the agricultural statistics, implies a holding of which no portion is subject to a squatting license. The word "station" implies a holding of which portion is subject to a squatting license. "Farms" consist of alienated land only. "Stations" consist either of Crown lands only or of Crown and alienated lands occupied in the same holdings.

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*Live Stock on Farms, &c., and on Stations** 1874-5 and 1875-6.
ON FARMS AND LAND UNCONNECTED WITH STATIONS.

Year ended 31st March	Horses.	Cattle.			Sheep.	Pigs.
		Milch Cows.	Exclusive of Milch Cows.	Total.		
1875 -	161,398	228,593	571,526	800,119	5,694,391	133,747
1876, -	177,679	242,694	653,926	896,620	6,426,698	136,844
Increase -	16,281	14,101	82,400	96,501	732,307	3,097

ON STATIONS.

1875 -	18,856	12,544	145,995	158,539	5,526,645	4,194
1876 -	18,505	12,443	145,585	157,978	5,322,834	3,921
Decrease -	351	101	460	561	203,811	273

TOTAL LIVE STOCK.

1875 -	180,254	241,137	717,521	968,658	11,221,036	137,941
1876 -	196,184	255,137	799,461	1,054,598	11,749,532	140,765
Increase -	15,930	14,000	81,940	95,940	528,496	2,824

Steam engines
on farms and
stations.

145. The extent to which steam machinery is used in agricultural and pastoral pursuits has varied but slightly in the last two years, as will be seen by the following figures:—

Steam Engines on Farms and Stations, 1875 and 1876.*

Year ended 31st March	Steam Engines.					
	On Farms.		On Stations.		Total.	
	Number.	Horse Power.	Number.	Horse Power.	Number.	Horse Power.
1875 -	262	2,051	22	216	284	2,267
1876 -	253	2,081	23	201	276	2,282
Increase -	—	30	1	—	—	15
Decrease -	9	—	—	15	8	—

* A definition of the terms "farm" and "station," as used in connexion with these returns, has already been given in the footnote to the table following paragraph 143, *ante*. It may, however, be necessary still further to explain that these designations refer not to the size of the holding, but simply to the tenure under which it is held. All holdings are set down as farms except those subject to a pastoral license. Holdings of which any portion is subject to a pastoral license are set down as stations. When the last portion of a run has been purchased, or selected by the occupier or others, and the pastoral license is consequently thereafter no longer in existence, the holding which previously had been a "station" thenceforth becomes a "farm," and this notwithstanding that the area of the holding may not at all or only very slightly have been reduced. In the more settled districts a gradual process of removal of holdings from the list of stations to that of farms has for some time since been going on. See note on previous page.

146. A slight falling off appears in the value of agricultural implements and machines on stations, but an increase in the value of those on farms. The following are the figures:—

VICTORIA.
Agricultural
implements, &c.

Agricultural Implements, &c. on Farms and Stations, 1875 and 1876.*

Year ended 31st March.	Value of Implements and Machinery		
	On Farms.	On Stations.	Total.
1875 - - -	£ 1,486,558	£ 80,751	£ 1,567,309
1876 - - -	1,623,697	80,467	1,704,164
Increase - - -	137,139	—	136,855
Decrease - - -	—	284	—

147. The improvements on farms and stations, of which a statement of the value is given in the following table, include buildings of all descriptions, fencing, dips, wells, dams, &c., but not the cost of clearing or cropping land. As in most of the other returns, an increase appears in the figures relating to farms, and a falling off in those relating to stations:—

Improvements
on farms and
stations.

Improvements on Farms and Stations, 1875 and 1876.*

Year ended 31st March.	Value of Improvement.		
	On Farms.	On Stations.	Totals.
1875 - - -	£ 10,410,609	£ 1,920,516	£ 12,331,125
1876 - - -	11,987,818	1,889,866	13,877,684
Increase - - -	1,577,209	—	1,546,559
Decrease - - -	—	30,650	—

148. The manufactorys, works, &c. existing in Victoria are classified as follow for the year under review, and for the first year of each of the two previous quinquenniads. The establishments noted are all of an extensive character. Every boot-maker's, tailor's, dressmaker's, carpenter's, cooper's, blacksmith's, baker's, or confectioner's shop may, in a certain sense, be called

List of manu-
factories, 1866,
1871, and 1876.

* For definition of the terms "farm" and "station," see footnotes to tables following paragraphs 143 and 144, *ante*.

VICTORIA. a manufactory, but no attempt has been made to enumerate such places:—

Manufactories, Works, &c., 1866, 1871, and 1876.

Description of Machinery.	Number of Establishments.		
	1865-6.	1870-1.	1875-6.
BOOKS AND STATIONERY.			
Account book manufactories, manufacturing stationers - - - - -	—	10	16
Printing establishments - - - - -	9	17	34
MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS.			
Organ building establishments - - - - -	1	1	1
Pianoforte manufactories - - - - -	4	4	9
PRINTS, PICTURES, &c.			
Picture-frame makers - - - - -	—	—	6
CARVING, FIGURES, &c.			
Carving and gilding establishments - - - - -	—	—	2
India-rubber stamp manufactories - - - - -	—	—	3
Modelling (architectural and figure) works - - - - -	—	—	2
Statuary works - - - - -	—	—	1
Turnery works - - - - -	—	—	7
Wood carving and ornamental works - - - - -	—	—	1
Wooden pipe manufactories - - - - -	—	—	2
DESIGNS, MEDALS, AND DIES.			
Diesinkers, engravers, medalists - - - - -	—	—	—
Trade-mark makers - - - - -	—	—	4
PHILOSOPHICAL INSTRUMENTS, &c.			
Philosophical instrument manufactories - - - - -	—	—	3
Spectacles manufactories - - - - -	—	—	1
SURGICAL INSTRUMENTS.			
Surgical instrument, truss manufactories - - - - -	—	—	4
ARMS, AMMUNITION, &c.			
Blasting powder, dynamite, &c. manufactories - - - - -	—	—	6
Fuze manufactories - - - - -	—	1	1
Gun makers - - - - -	—	—	3
MACHINES, TOOLS, AND IMPLEMENTS.			
Agricultural implement manufactories - - - - -	16	42	47
Bellows manufactories - - - - -	—	—	1
Cutlery, machine tool manufactories - - - - -	—	1	9
Engine, machine manufactories - - - - -	14	18	52
CARRIAGES AND HARNESS.			
Coach, waggon, &c. manufactories - - - - -	1	2	105
Perambulator manufactories - - - - -	—	—	2
Saddle harness manufactories - - - - -	—	—	19
Saddletree, &c. manufactories - - - - -	—	—	4
Saddlers' ironmongery and coach-spring manufactories - - - - -	—	—	2
Whip manufactories - - - - -	—	3	5

VICTORIA.

Description of Machinery.	Number of Establishments.		
	1865-6.	1870-1.	1875-6.
SHIPS AND BOATS.			
Ship, boat builders - - - - -	14	15	17
Ships' wheels, blocks, &c. manufactories - - - - -	—	—	1
Floating docks - - - - -	5	6	1
Graving docks - - - - -			3
Patent slips - - - - -			5
HOUSES, BUILDINGS, &c.			
Lime works - - - - -	29	36	29
Cement (patent) manufactories - - - - -	—	—	—
Patent ceiling ventilator manufactories - - - - -	—	—	1
Roof-covering composition manufactories - - - - -	—	—	1
FURNITURE.			
Bedding and upholstery manufactories - - - - -	—	7	6
Cabinet works, including billiard table makers - - - - -	2	2	20
Earth-closet manufactories - - - - -	—	3	3
Iron safe manufactories - - - - -	—	2	2
Looking glass manufactories - - - - -	—	2	3
CHEMICALS.			
Chemical works - - - - -	6	3	5
Dye works - - - - -	6	10	17
Essential oil manufactories - - - - -	—	2	4
Ink, blacking, blue, washing powder, &c. manufactories - - - - -	2	3	8
Japanners - - - - -	—	—	1
Match (vesta) manufactories - - - - -	—	—	1
Paint, varnish manufactories - - - - -	—	1	1
Photographic apparatus manufactories - - - - -	—	—	1
Salt works - - - - -	1	4	7
Tar-distilling, asphalte works - - - - -	—	1	2
TEXTILE FABRICS.			
Woollen mills - - - - -	—	2	6
DRESS.			
Boot manufactories - - - - -	—	17	46
Clothing factories - - - - -	13	35	47
Fur manufactories - - - - -	—	—	4
Hat, cap manufactories - - - - -	4	10	15
Oilskin, waterproof clothing manufactories - - - - -	—	—	4
Umbrella and parasol manufactories - - - - -	—	—	7
FIBROUS MATERIALS.			
Bag and sack manufactories - - - - -	3	—	—
Jute factories - - - - -	—	—	1
Oilcloth manufactories - - - - -	—	—	—
Rope, twine works - - - - -	3	12	10
ANIMAL FOOD.			
Cheese factories - - - - -	—	—	17
Meat-curing establishments - - - - -	1	14	17
Oyster culture - - - - -	1	—	—

VICTORIA.

Description of Machinery.	Number of Establishments.		
	1865-6.	1870-1.	1875-6.
VEGETABLE FOOD.			
Biscuit manufactures - - - - -	8	8	7
Confectionery works - - - - -	—	4	8
Flour mills - - - - -	118	147	157
Jam manufactures - - - - -	—	2	7
Macaroni works - - - - -	—	—	1
Maizena, oatmeal, starch manufactures - - - - -	1	2	3
Rice mills - - - - -	—	2	1
DRINKS AND STIMULANTS.			
Aërated waters, ginger beer, liqueur, &c. works - - - - -	63	112	124
Breweries - - - - -	80	116	103
Coffee, chocolate, spice works - - - - -	5	10	11
Chicory mills - - - - -	—	—	2
Distilleries - - - - -	2	5	5
Malthouses - - - - -	8	16	16
Sauce, pickle manufactures - - - - -	—	—	3
Sugar refineries - - - - -	1	1	1
Tobacco, cigar, snuff manufactures - - - - -	9	9	12
Vinegar works - - - - -	—	—	6
ANIMAL MATTERS.			
Boiling-down establishments - - - - -	3	24	22
Bone-cutting mills - - - - -	—	—	1
Bone manure manufactures - - - - -	14	17	16
Brush manufactures - - - - -	1	2	4
Catgut manufactures - - - - -	—	—	1
Curled hair manufactures - - - - -	1	—	2
Fancy dyed wool mat and rug manufactures - - - - -	—	—	1
Fellmongeries, wool-washing establishments - - - - -	22	36	52
Flock manufactures - - - - -	2	2	4
Glue, oil manufactures - - - - -	—	5	10
Manure (poudrette) manufactures - - - - -	—	—	1
Morocco fancy leather manufactures - - - - -	—	—	1
Parchment and skin manufactures - - - - -	—	1	—
Portmanteau, trunk manufactures - - - - -	—	—	8
Soap, candle, tallow works - - - - -	21	29	43
Tanneries - - - - -	43	56	91
VEGETABLE MATTERS.			
Bark mills - - - - -	—	—	4
Basket-making works - - - - -	1	—	6
Blind (window) manufactures - - - - -	—	—	9
Broom manufactures - - - - -	—	1	2
Chaff-cutting, corn-cutting works - - - - -	68	157	185
Cooperage works - - - - -	3	4	15
Fancy box manufactures - - - - -	—	1	3
Firewood sawing mills - - - - -	—	—	2
Hat-box manufactures - - - - -	—	—	1
Ladders and steps joineries - - - - -	—	—	1
Moulding, framing, turning, and saw mills - - - - -	86	127	165
Packing-case manufactures - - - - -	1	—	2
Paper manufactures - - - - -	—	1	8
Paper-bag manufactures - - - - -	—	—	—
COAL.			
Gas works - - - - -	7	11	15

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Description of Machinery.	Number of Establishments.		
	1865-6.	1870-1.	1875-6.
STONE, CLAY, EARTHENWARE, AND GLASS.			
Artificial stone manufactories -	-	1	-
Brickyards and potteries -	151	301	241
Filter manufactories -	-	-	2
Glass manufactories, works -	1	4	5
Marble and monument works -	-	1	19
Stone-breaking works -	2	2	4
Stone-sawing, polishing works -	-		7
WATER.			
Ice manufactories -	1	1	1
Waterworks -	3	6	5
GOLD, SILVER, AND PRECIOUS STONES.			
Assaying works -	-	-	1
Electro-plating and gilding works -	-	-	4
Goldsmiths and jewellers (manufacturing) -	-	-	15
Lapidaries -	-	-	1
METALS OTHER THAN GOLD AND SILVER.			
Antimony smelting works -	-	1	5
Bell foundries -	-	-	1
Iron and tin works -	-	11	45
Iron, brass, and copper foundries -	40	58	76
Lead works -	2	2	2
Tin-smelting works -	-	-	1
Type foundries -	-	1	-
Wire-working establishments -	-	-	5
Total -	903	1,584	2,246

149. Further particulars of these manufactories are given in the following summary for the same three periods. A large increase will be observed at each period in all the items.

Manufactories, general summary, 1866, 1871, and 1876.

Summary of Manufactories, Works, &c., 1866, 1871, and 1876.

Year ended 31st March	Total Number of Establish- ments.	Number of Establish- ments using Steam.	Horse Power of Steam Engines.	Number of Hands employed.	Approximate Value of Lands, Buildings, Machinery, and Plant.
1866 -	903	364	5,346	10,059	2,269,696
1871 -	1,584	647	8,921	17,758	4,522,695
1876 -	2,246	901	12,326	29,892	7,345,461

150. The stone quarries in operation in the year under notice and the previous one were returned as follow:—

VICTORIA.

Stone Quarries, 1875 and 1876.

Year ended 31st March	Number of Quarries.	Cubic Yards of Stone raised.				Steam Engines in use.	
		Blue Stone.	Slate and Flagging.	Sand- stone.	Granite.	Number.	Horse Power.
1875 -	172	344,617	1,290	12,660	3,900	5	56
1876 -	160	332,593	894	11,203	2,645	6	44
Increase -	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Decrease -	12	12,024	396	1,457	1,255	—	12

Year ended 31st March	Number of Hands employed.	Approximate Total Value of			
		Stone raised.	Machinery and Plant.	Lands.*	Buildings.
1875 -	1,009	81,338	16,704	14,588	3,302
1876 -	587	57,276	13,343	16,318	1,659
Increase -	—	—	—	1,730	—
Decrease -	422	24,062	3,361	—	1,643

Gold raised,
1875.

151. The quantity of exported gold entered as being the produce of Victoria, added to the quantity of Victorian gold received at the Melbourne Mint, have usually been considered as expressing fairly the whole quantity of gold raised in Victoria in any year. These quantities for the year 1875 were as follow:—

	Gold raised in 1875.	oz.	dwts.	grs.
Gold exported entered as Victorian	709,934	18	0	
Victorian gold received at the Mint	385,852	3	10	
Total	1,095,787	1	10	

Gold raised,
1874 and 1875.

152. This quantity of gold, and its value at 4*l.* per oz., is compared with the quantity and value of gold raised in the previous year, as follows:—

Quantity and Value of Gold, 1874 and 1875.

Year.	Gold raised in Victoria.		
	Estimated Quantity.	Estimated Value at 4 <i>l.</i> per oz.	
1874 -	ozs.		£
1875 -	1,155,972	4,623,888	
	1,095,787	4,383,148	
Decrease -	60,185	240,740	

* Forty-nine of the stone quarries in 1874-5, and 51 in 1875-6, were upon Crown lands. In these cases no valuation of the land was made.

153. From the period of the first discovery of gold in Victoria to the end of the year under review it is estimated that 45,509,964 $\frac{1}{4}$ ounces of gold were raised, representing at 4*l.* per ounce a value of 182,039,857*l.*

154. The miners have been falling off in numbers for years past. This will be seen by the following figures, which show the numbers at work on the 31st December of each of the last five years:—

Number of Miners, 1871-5.

1871	-	-	-	58,279
1872	-	-	-	52,965
1873	-	-	-	50,595
1874	-	-	-	45,151
1875	-	-	-	41,717

155. It is estimated that a considerable increase has taken place in the last two years in the quantity of gold raised in proportion to the number of hands employed in getting it. The following are the figures for those and the three previous years:—

Value of Gold per Miner, 1871-5.*

		£	s.	d.
1871	-	-	93	6 0·62
1872	-	-	93	17 1·47
1873	-	-	93	16 2·62
1874	-	-	99	8 3·07
1875	-	-	104	4 4·02

156. The number of steam engines employed in gold mining fell off from 1,141 in 1874 to 1,101 in 1875. 69 per cent. of the engines were used in the furtherance of quartz mining in the former, and 70 per cent. in the latter year. The remainder were employed in alluvial mining.

157. The number of mining machines of all descriptions fell off from 5,220 in 1874 to 5,098 in 1875, and the value of such machines fell off from 2,078,936*l.* in 1874 to 2,033,629*l.* in 1875.

158. The following are the estimated values of metals and minerals other than gold raised in Victoria from 1851 to the end of 1875. Of these productions the values raised in 1875 were estimated to amount to 35,452*l.*

Metals and Minerals other than Gold, 1871-5.

		£
Silver	-	14,617
Tin	-	333,870
Copper	-	8,331

* These amounts are sometimes incorrectly spoken of as the "average earnings" of the miners. As a very large proportion of the miners are working on wages, the gold they raise no more represents their individual earnings than do the products of a manufactory represent the earnings of its operatives.

VICTORIA.

	£
Antimony -	104,865
Lead -	4,700
Iron -	2,101
Coal -	8,233
Lignite -	2,172
Kaolin -	7,444
Flagging -	37,961
Slates -	940
Magnesite -	12
Diamonds -	107
Sapphires, &c.	575
Total -	£525,928

Patents.

159. The patents for inventions applied for in Victoria during 1875 numbered 154, as against 147 in the previous year. Since 1854 the total number of patents applied for has been 2,181.

Copyrights.

160. The Victorian Copyright Act (33 Vict. No. 350) came into force in December 1869. Since then the number of objects in respect to which copyrights have been registered has been 1,687, classified as follows:—

Copyrights, 1870-5.

Part I. Designs -	- - -	157
Part II. Literary, dramatic, and musical productions -	- - -	578
Part III. Paintings, drawings, sculpture, engravings, and photographs -	- - -	952
Total -	- - -	1,687

Waterworks.

161. The waterworks in Victoria, part of which are completed and part in progress, are estimated to cost in the aggregate 2,583,665*l.* It is calculated that the storage capacity for water of the reservoirs connected with these works will amount in all to 12,052,819,225 gallons.

(Signed) HENRY HEYLYN HAYTER,
 Government Statist of Victoria.

Office of the Government Statist, Melbourne,
September 27, 1876.

QUEENSLAND.

QUEENSLAND.

No. 9.

Governor CAIRNS, C.M.G., to The EARL OF CARNARVON.

Government House, Brisbane,

MY LORD,

June 16, 1876.

YOUR Lordship will not have forgotten the incidental allusions to the aborigines of Queensland, and to such means as had been or might be adopted of improving their condition, that were made in my Despatches of the 16th April and 30th August 1875.

2. The Colonial Secretary did not reply in writing to the minute of which notice is taken in the earlier Despatch; but, during his absence from the Colony, the Treasurer, as the acting head of the administration, considered it necessary to give the subject his careful attention, and to appoint, through the Minister for Lands, three experienced and trustworthy gentlemen, whose reports should assist the Government in deciding whether Mr. Bridgeman's services in the Mackay District were proving useful; whether, that is, the money vote (500*l.*) had been judiciously expended in the attempt, under his superintendence, to settle down and so far partially civilize, a number of native blacks.

3. I enclose with this Despatch a copy of Messrs. Ranson, McLean, and Long's Report, and one also of a long letter from Mr. Bridgeman himself; and I think I may venture to anticipate the substance of your Lordship's opinion, namely, that upon the showing of both documents a good work is being done.

4. The Legislature will vote, I feel sure, a further sum of 500*l.* to be expended for the same purpose during the ensuing year; and towards the attainment of beneficial results continuously in regard to the treatment of the aborigines throughout Queensland, I have obtained from my advisers their ready consent to the appointment of a permanent Commission, gazetted as a Royal Commission, of which every member is specially qualified for the duty of aiding the Government in bringing about a better state of things. I enclose a copy of the official record of the appointment of this Commission.

I have, &c.

(Signed) W. W. CAIRNS.

The Right Hon. the Earl of Carnarvon,
&c. &c. &c.

QUEENSLAND.

Enclosure No. 1.

SIR,

Mackay, May 4, 1876.

IN accordance with your request to inspect the aboriginal reserve in this district under the superintendence of Mr. Bridgeman, and report thereon, we now have the honour to inform you that we have visited the settlements which Mr. Bridgeman has formed on the reserve, and herewith forward you our report of work done, and our opinion as to utility and future prospects of the same.

No. 1 Camp. "Gooneenberry," situated on Sandy Creek, about six miles from its mouth, and established 12 months.

From 40 to 80 aborigines occupy this camp, which consists of one grass paddock securely fenced, one five-acre cultivation paddock, partly fenced, completely stumped, and planted with sweet potatoes, &c. ; and a homestead consisting of store and kitchen with iron roof, six slab humpies with thatched roofs, three and a half acres of garden abundantly stocked with vegetables, and every kind of tropical fruit tree likely to thrive in this latitude. There was a good supply of stores here, enough to last two months.

No. 2 Camp. "Carrobaya," situated about four miles below first camp, and near the mouth of Sandy Creek, established about six months.

From 20 to 40 aborigines occupy this camp, which consists of one acre under cultivation with corn, bananas, and sweet potatoes, more land in preparation, one bricked well, and several humpies in course of erection.

No. 1A Camp. Settlement of about two acres, started and planted with bananas, &c., but deserted for No. 2 Camp on account of scarcity of water during dry season of 1875.

No. 3 Camp. "Jullaboi," situated on the coast at the mouth of Scrubby Creek, and about four miles from first settlement, and easily accessible from Mackay by boat.

From 40 to 80 aborigines occupy this camp, which may be considered the principal settlement, as Mr. Bridgeman generally resides here, making it a dépôt for stores and produce, which he conveys in and out of port by means of his boat.

The improvements consist of one substantial slab dwelling house, with iron roof and brick floor ; six thatched humpies, and a three and a half acre cultivation paddock, securely fenced and well stocked with sweet potatoes, corn, bananas, pumpkins, and other vegetables, including a small plantation of castor-oil plants, which Mr. Bridgeman is anxious to extend.

Besides the above-mentioned improvements, Mr. Bridgeman has purchased a horse and cart for the use of the settlement, and all necessary cooking utensils, spades, and other tools, besides a fine large sieve.

We consider the results, as far as the money expended (600*l.*) by the Government, to be satisfactory; all the aborigines

acknowledging the advantages they have received, and expressing QUEENSLAND. their anxiety to be protected and assisted for a few years more until they become self-supporting.

To our knowledge, many of the aborigines are employed on sugar plantations in the district during the crushing season, thereby paying their own way; and were it not for Mr. Bridgeman's supervision, they would never be induced to remain, and would become a nuisance to the inhabitants of the district generally.

From the facts we have gathered, we consider the present success is entirely due to the untiring energy of Mr. Bridgeman, who in this matter has displayed a thorough knowledge of the aboriginal character, and great aptitude in taking advantage of it for their good.

And should the Government be able to secure Mr. Bridgeman's future services in his present capacity of Black Protector, we should feel fully justified in recommending them to continue their efforts in favour of the amelioration and elevation of aborigines in this district; but in less experienced hands we should consider the success of the undertaking more than doubtful.

(Signed) CHARLES C. RANSON.
 C. W. MACLEAN.

The Hon. Secretary for Lands,
Brisbane.

EDWARD M. LONG.

Enclosure No. 2.

DEAR SIR,

Gooneenberry, May 4, 1876.

I AM in receipt of your favour of April 8th, as also a telegram of the 20th, informing me that a Board had been appointed to enquire into the working of the settlement for aborigines under my charge. I sent you a telegram asking if my visiting Brisbane would be any use. I may say, in reference to this matter, that I do not wish to leave the district at present, unless some important object is to be gained by my doing so; if, however, an interview with your Board would enable you to come with greater certainty to a conclusion in reference to the future object and scope of the operations here amongst the blacks, I could arrange to leave for the short time that would be necessary without any great inconvenience.

The three gentlemen nominated to report to the Government as advised, have visited the settlement, and I assume their report will be forwarded to the Lands Office at once.

They rode round the reserve, took a considerable amount of trouble, conversing with the blacks at the different camps, &c.; and it is scarcely necessary to remark that I gave them all the assistance and information in my power.

I am sorry to notice that you think the Legislature will not pass such a measure to deal with the aborigines as I have pro-

QUEENSLAND. posed ; it is not of so much consequence here, but I fear, without something of the kind, it will be almost impossible to make homes for these people in some other districts, where they have been accustomed to beg and steal about the townships and settlements.

You may possibly have noticed that it is only intended to operate in any district after proclamation to that effect, so that it would not apply in localities where it might be considered unnecessary or unsuitable.

I may notice that if the more intelligent of the blacks on these settlements had their way, they would desire very stringent rules for their own regulation ; they are constantly requesting me to take the law in my own hands in a very summary fashion in cases where individuals transgress the general rules laid down for their guidance.

In reference to your remarks, " My own idea has always been that our settlements should be managed more with the view of giving comparative comfort and a refuge to the blacks in the several districts, than with the primary object of getting a great amount of work out of them, &c., &c., " I have considered that it is impossible to keep a number of blacks in one place without their having artificial means of subsistence—I mean otherwise than their habitual ones—by hunting, digging up natural roots, &c., therefore my aim has been to prepare and cultivate land, plant bananas, and other things suitable for food, so that when further steps are taken to teach and civilize the blacks, they can be supported without entire dependence on purchased supplies, in the meanwhile doing what I can towards the chief end in view.

In reference to work, although I have made a supply of clothes and food conditional on the performance of a certain amount of work, I have never made the work irksome, too severe, or the hours too long. I always tell them if any day their hands are sore, or they are tired, they can say so and go hunting for food ; but that if they go to work they must keep at it and not shirk. If I see an individual doing so, I tell him to go home to his hut or camp, which usually has the effect of making him turn to with a will.

There are a few of the older men who will not and many who cannot work, but as a rule the greater number have no objection whatever to being employed eight or nine hours a day ; and the women are very good for the lighter kinds of field work. The greater number of the men prefer the regular meals in the settlement to a subsistence in their old way ; such being the case, and being relieved of the labour of running down game, it is reasonable to expect them to give an equivalent for their keep in labour, otherwise they would have nothing to do but sleeping and planning mischief. It is my practice, when in regular employment, to encourage them to go on short hunting expeditions from Saturday afternoon until Sunday night or Monday morning, it relieves monotony, and avoids the expense of keep during the time in question, often, however, they do not care to go.

In reference to the children, I rather neglected them at first, caring more for individuals from whom I could get work; I am now, however, giving them more of my attention. At this camp ("Goonenberry") I have a man (black) in charge who answers the purpose admirably; any simple work, such as digging, planting potatoes, &c., is done just as well in my absence as otherwise. I may say the same of "Carrobaya," but at "Yullaboy," where I usually now reside, and at which camp are the only blacks who have given me much trouble, I cannot get one to do the superintendence; two or three have tried and given it up. As I have before mentioned, however, bringing any tribe of blacks into a certain amount of order is, in my opinion, merely a matter of time and money. My experience, during the time I have been engaged in my present occupation, leads me to the conclusion that, with proper management and the necessary funds, it is quite possible to induce these aborigines to look on such settlements as these as their homes, and to do a moderate amount of work in return for their keep and protection, and to give up thieving and spearing cattle as a practice; although it has to be remembered that there are black sheep in all communities, and it is consequently quite impossible for me to say that there will never be any depredations committed here by blacks. In so far I have performed quite as much as I expected, the only difficulty is the cost, and I believe with proper arrangements this affair can be made less expensive by degrees, until, in a few years, it may be almost entirely self-supporting.

To do so, however, I should recommend the expenditure of a portion of any future grant in the purchase of cattle.

Your Board gave me leave to expend a portion of the current vote in this way, but being apprehensive of running short of funds, in consequence of the number of preliminary expenses, I did not avail myself of the liberty.

Next it will be necessary to engage in the production of some exportable commodity, as, although I can easily grow more potatoes, fruit, or corn than is required on the reserve, the sale of such commodities is notoriously precarious. With this view I have planted a small area with the castor-oil plant at one of the places, which I propose to extend when I have sufficient seed for the purpose.

When strange blacks from a distance, who are not usually located on this reserve, visit any of the settlements, they do not come up at once and make themselves at home, but make a fire and sit down at a distance; some from the place will then usually go to them, and after a conversation, perhaps, ask them, or one or two of them, to come to the huts; they will then do so, but only as visitors. There is generally a little rivalry between the superintendents of the various camps to get such strangers, especially if they are able-bodied, to work for them; each place likes to make as much show as possible, and the inhabitants think it a good plan to impress outsiders into their service.

QUEENSLAND. I have just now commenced a fourth camp for blacks belonging more inland ; it is on the reserve, and about three and a half miles from this place. Several of the young men who reside here have gone there for a time to assist in clearing and fencing an area of two or three acres that I have marked out. I have told the blacks that will reside there that I will give them rations to do the work of clearing and planting as much as they can do in a month, and that then they must work on a plantation, or go inland until their things have grown, when they can come back and settle permanently.

I believe, if this affair is carried out, it will develop into a great number of small settlements all over the reserve, two or three families living together on an acre or two of cultivation, and although, under such circumstances, I have no doubt but that there will be occasional quarrels and feuds, I believe, as a rule, they will continually visit one another and combine for hunting and fishing expeditions, and assist one another in work.

It seems to me the best plan will then be to make a kind of central farm, with a store and school, where a white superintendent would reside ; that although each family could have its own home, where they could grow potatoes, &c., they would be required to do a certain amount of work on the farm, the proceeds of which would go to the general fund, and that there the children could attend for education.

I am quite aware that most persons would look on a proposition involving so much system as absurd, and say that the blacks will have died out before it could be brought into operation ; but my experience so far leads me to believe that if the necessary measures are taken, and the necessary funds available, such a scheme as I have mentioned might be in operation within two or three years.

I believe I may say that there is a slight moral improvement in those blacks who reside more constantly on the reserve, but I cannot say that it is general as yet.

In one respect there is a marked advance : at first quarrels and fights between individuals were very frequent, now such occurrences are exceptional.

I have written the foregoing as bearing on the extract quoted from your letter, and also to advise your Board on particulars and prospects in connexion with my work here that would probably not be included in a report by persons visiting this reserve, as the gentlemen lately appointed by the Government did, and who would of necessity confine their information to matters more practical and apparent.

I have, &c.

(Signed) GEO. F. BRIDGEMAN.

W. L. G. Drew, Esq.

Enclosure No. 3.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Brisbane,
May 26, 1876.

His Excellency the Governor directs the subjoined Commission, issued to the Commissioners appointed for the purpose of inquiring into and investigating the condition of the aboriginal inhabitants of Queensland, to be published for general information.

(Signed) A. MACALISTER.

Victoria, by the Grace of God, of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, Queen, Defender of the Faith, &c., &c.,

To the Right Reverend Matthew Blagden Hale, Bishop of Brisbane, Augustus Charles Gregory, Companion of the Most Distinguished Order of St. Michael and St. George, William Leworthy Goode Drew, Charles James Graham, and William Landsborough, all of Brisbane, in the Colony of Queensland, Esquires.

Whereas it hath been represented to the Governor of our Colony of Queensland, in Council, that it is expedient and desirable to appoint Commissioners for the purpose of inquiring into and investigating the condition of the aboriginal inhabitants of our said Colony, and for other the purposes herein-after mentioned: And whereas the Governor of our said Colony, in Council, has been pleased to appoint you as Commissioners for the purposes aforesaid: Now know ye, that we, reposing special trust and confidence in your zeal, industry, discretion, and ability, do, by these presents, by and with the advice of our Executive Council of our Colony aforesaid, constitute and appoint you the said Matthew Blagden Hale, Augustus Charles Gregory, William Leworthy Goode Drew, Charles James Graham, and William Landsborough, or any three of you, to be our Commissioners to inquire into and investigate the condition of the aboriginal inhabitants of our said Colony, and to report from time to time to our Governor aforesaid upon the best means to be adopted by legislative enactment or otherwise for improving the condition of the said aboriginal inhabitants. And we do also by these presents give and grant to you, or any three of you, at any meeting or meetings, full power and authority to call before you such persons as you may judge necessary by whom you may be better informed of the truth in the premises. And we do further command and enjoin you that you do take down the examination of the several witnesses that may appear before you, and reduce the same into writing, and such evidence, together with a full and faithful report upon the several matters above referred to, as you and each of you shall think fit from time to time to transmit to the office of our Colonial Secretary of our said Colony.

In testimony whereof we have caused this our Commission to be sealed with the seal of our said Colony.

QUEENSLAND. Witness our trusty and well-beloved William Wellington Cairns, Esquire, Companion of the Most Distinguished Order of St. Michael and St. George, Governor and Commander-in-Chief of the Colony of Queensland and its Dependencies, at Government House, Brisbane, this 26th day of May, in the year of our Lord 1876, and in the 39th year of our reign.

(Signed) W. W. CAIRNS.

By His Excellency's Command,
A. Macalister.

Entered on record by me in the Register of Patents, No. 5, page 35, this 26th day of May, A.D. 1876.

(Signed) H. H. MASSIE,
For the Colonial Secretary and Registrar.

No. 10.

Government House, Brisbane,
September 15, 1876.

MY LORD,

2 copies. WITH further reference to the subject of my Despatch, No. 23, of the 24th March last, I have the honour to transmit the sixteenth annual report of the Registrar-General of Queensland, headed "Vital Statistics, 1875," which brings the official information collected by his department in regard to the births, deaths, and marriages, and the population, up to the close of the year.

This paper, interesting and encouraging as its contents undoubtedly are, does not profess to convey the *general* information looked for by readers of Colonial Office Blue Book Reports; but the Registrar-General, Mr. Jordan, being now engaged upon other important work, I am doubtful whether a complete summary of the condition of the Colony, during the first year of my government, can be prepared in time for publication in the early part of 1877; and I would therefore suggest to your Lordship that at least some extracts from his annual report, might advantageously appear in the next issue of the papers relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions.

I have, &c.

(Signed) W. W. CAIRNS.

The Right Hon. the Earl of Carnarvon,
&c., &c., &c.

VITAL STATISTICS, 1875.—SIXTEENTH ANNUAL REPORT FROM THE REGISTRAR-GENERAL.—Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command.

Registrar-General's Office, Brisbane,
SIR, August 3, 1876.

A PRELIMINARY statement showing the number of births, deaths, and marriages, taken from the registers of this department, having been already laid by command before Parliament,

I have now the honour of submitting completed vital statistics for ~~QUEENSLAND~~ the year 1875, as contained in the appended Tables 1 to 15, with the Sixteenth Annual Report, containing an abstract of the principal figures, with a view of presenting the information generally interesting to the public in a brief and convenient form.

These statistics would have been published at an earlier period but for the fact that the vital statistics for 1874 were behind, and had first to be prepared. These, with my accompanying report, were published in the early part of the present year.

In accordance with the recommendation made to the Government, as stated in the last report, authority has been given to make the registry districts to correspond with the census districts throughout the Colony. This has been a work of no little labour, but the change now thus effected will prove highly beneficial in facilitating the business of the registry branch of the department, and furnishing in the future the means of an easy comparison between the number of births and deaths registered, and the actual population of each district as determined by the census.

A comparison between the returns in the several registry districts for the past and previous years will be rendered somewhat difficult by the changes thus made, but for the future this will be entirely obviated by the new arrangement.

The divisions of the country which formed the census districts of 1871 have been adopted as the basis of the readjustment. In localities where settlement had considerably extended during the last five years it has been necessary to form some new districts, and the neighbouring ones have consequently needed alteration; but the rule has been to make no changes not absolutely required in the old census divisions; and wherever any change was unavoidable, the new and altered districts have in each case been made identical with the police districts, as one step towards making these also to correspond with the census districts and registry districts. All but three of the old registry districts have been somewhat altered either in name or in their boundaries. The number is increased from 40 to 52. A description of them will be found in Appendix B., No. 1.

The registry districts as now constituted were proclaimed in the *Government Gazette*, published on the 20th February 1876. They are grouped according to their geographical position, and divided into north, central, and south. A return of these, with the names of the district registrars, will be found in Appendix B., No. 2.

Appendix C. contains Meteorological Observer's report, with compendious tables attached, showing observations made in the metropolis and other places in the Colony, of temperature, rainfall, and other particulars. These are minute and ample, and will no doubt prove interesting and valuable.

In a report published by the conference of the statisticians of the several Australian Colonies held some little time since, among other things determined it was deemed desirable that a Meteorological Observer's report should be published in connexion with the vital statistics of each Colony. This practice, which had

QUEENSLAND, before obtained in Queensland, was thus formally recommended for general adoption.

In reading the tables it should be borne in mind that the mean population is taken as the basis of the calculations in the tables unless otherwise indicated. The estimated mean population for the year is 172,402.

Table I., in Appendix A., contains a synopsis that will be found useful for a comparison of the vital statistics from a period prior to that of the separation of the Colony from New South Wales, extending over a period of 20 years, from 1856 to 1875 inclusive.

Table II. shows the estimated population on the 31st December 1874 and 1875; the number of births, deaths, and marriages registered in Queensland in 1875; and the estimated mean population for the latter year.

Table III. exhibits the number of births registered in each quarter of the year under review, in each of the registry districts throughout the Colony.

In number IV. table will be seen the number of marriages registered in each of the several districts, distinguishing between those effected under the *Registration and Justices Marrying Act*, and such as were celebrated with the rites of each separate religious denomination in the Colony.

The nationalities of husbands and wives registered as married in Queensland is given in table number V.

Table VI. shows the various ages of husbands and wives married in 1875.

Table VII. gives the number of deaths registered in each quarter of the year in each of the registry districts.

The number of deaths of children under one year, under two years, and under five years, is given in Table VIII.

The nationality of all whose deaths are registered in the year, both males and females, in each registry district, is contained in table number IX.

The occupations of all persons registered as having died during the year is shown in table number X.

Causes of deaths occurring in each separate month of the year are given in table number XI.; as also causes of deaths of males and females at different periods of life, as registered, the diseases being particularised under certain recognised classes and orders.

The causes of deaths, as registered, of males at the different periods of life; the causes of deaths of females in the same manner; and the causes of deaths of males and females together, and in the same way, in the several registry districts, are shown in tables numbered XII., XIII., and XIV. respectively.

The order of fatality in the diseases or circumstances issuing in death is shown in table number XV.

Population.

The estimated population at the end of the year is 181,288, consisting of 111,272 males and 70,016 females. The increase for the year numbers 17,771.

The estimates of population given from year to year are arrived at by taking the population as ascertained by previous census returns, adding to them $2\frac{1}{4}$ per cent. to allow for some omissions certain to occur in a sparsely populated country with a very large area, and then adding each year the excess of births over deaths, and of immigration over emigration by sea, taking it for granted that the interchange over the border is about reciprocal. Hitherto it had been shown by the results of each census that this was a safe presumption, and the estimates of population in each year during the last quinquennium are accordingly based on the supposition that those coming and going across the border to and from New South Wales had equalised each other in each year. It will be manifest, however, when the final results of taking the census of 1876 are published with the report, that some disturbance of this equal adjustment has occurred since the year 1871, and that there must have been a balance against us in the immigration and emigration over land during the last five years, which will have to be adjusted when the vital statistics for the year 1876 are published.

The increase from excess of births over deaths and of immigration over emigration by sea in the year under review is at the rate of 10.87 per cent. The rate of increase of the former year was 11.47 per cent., which was a higher rate than had obtained before since the year 1865.

While it is satisfactory to find that population is steadily on the increase from both the sources referred to, it is to be regretted that the increase from births over deaths does not compare favourably in the past year with that of 1874.

The following table shows the total increase of population during the four quarters of the year:—

A.—Showing INCREASE in POPULATION in 1875 by excess of BIRTHS over DEATHS, and IMMIGRATION over EMIGRATION in each Quarter of the Year.

	Males.	Females.	Persons.	Total Natural Increase.	Total Increase by Immigration over Emigration.
FIRST QUARTER.					
Estimated population on the 1st January	97,860	65,657	163,517	—	—
Increase by excess of births over deaths during the quarter	192	433	625	625	—
Increase by excess of immigration over emigration by sea during the quarter	2,123	520	2,643	—	2,643
Population on the 31st March	100,175	66,610	166,785	—	—
Increase of population during the quarter	2,315	953	3,268	—	—
SECOND QUARTER.					
Population on the 1st April	100,175	66,610	166,785	—	—
Increase by excess of births over deaths during the quarter	176	409	585	585	—
Increase by excess of immigration over emigration by sea during the quarter	7,094	617	7,711	—	7,711
Population on the 30th June	107,445	67,636	175,081	—	—
Increase of population during the quarter	7,270	1,026	8,296	—	—

QUEENSLAND.

	Males.	Females.	Persons.	Total Natural Increase.	Total Increase by Immigration over Emigration.
THIRD QUARTER.					
Population on the 1st July	107,445	67,636	175,081	—	—
Increase by excess of births over deaths during the quarter	276	575	851	851	—
Increase by excess of immigration over emigration by sea during the quarter	2,690	857	3,547	—	3,547
Population on the 30th September	110,411	69,068	179,479	—	—
Increase of population during the quarter	2,966	1,432	4,398	—	—
FOURTH QUARTER.					
Population on the 1st October	110,411	69,068	179,479	—	—
Increase by excess of births over deaths during the quarter	117	424	541	541	—
Increase by excess of immigration over emigration by sea during the quarter	744	524	1,268	—	1,268
Population on the 31st December 1875	111,272	70,016	181,288	—	—
Increase of population during the quarter	861	948	1,809	—	—
Increase of population during the year	13,412	4,359	17,771	2,602	15,169

It will be seen that the whole natural increase, excess of births over deaths, in the year amounts only to 2,602, being at the rate of 1.58 per cent. The natural increase in 1874 was 3,589, or 2.44 per cent.; but while the natural increase is less, that from immigration is higher than in the previous year, showing 15,169 in 1875, in the ratio of 9.28 per cent., as against 13,238 in the former year, in the ratio of 8.74.

The excess of increase in immigration has been from the coloured races only; the arrivals of Europeans showing 3,710 less than in 1874, those of Chinese and South Sea Islanders 8,935 more.

The lower rate of natural increase has resulted both from a smaller proportion of births, and, unhappily, also from a considerably increased rate of mortality.

The largest increase from excess of births over deaths is in the September quarter, and this preponderance is found to obtain almost invariably, the December quarter almost as regularly showing the smallest increase.

Proportion of the Sexes.

The total increase of 17,771 consists of 13,412 males and 4,359 females, of which 12,651 males and 2,518 females belong to increase from excess of immigration, and 761 males and 1,841 females to natural increase, excess of births over deaths.

The ratio of total increase of males during the year is 13.7, as against 12.28 per cent. in 1874, that of females is 6.63 as against 10.28 in 1874. The rate of increase on the whole population is, males 8.21, females 2.66 per cent.

The considerable increase of males as compared to females is chiefly due to the increased number of South Sea Islanders brought in during the year, and to the inundation of Chinese caused by

the attraction of our Northern gold fields. The disproportion of ~~QUEENSLAND~~ the sexes in the community is thus considerably swelled.

Although the rate of total increase of females is small, being only 2.66 on the whole population, the ratio of the natural increase of females compared in the same way during the year has been unusually large, being 1.12 per cent. on the whole increase, that of males forming only 0.47 per cent. on the whole increase.

To make the proportion of increase from each source the more plain the following figures may be of service:—

Natural Increase, or excess of births over deaths in 1875.		Ratio of Increase over whole population of 1874.
Males	- 761	0.47
Females	- 1,841	1.12
	— 2,602	— 1.59
Increase from excess of Immi- gration over Emigration.		
Males	- 12,651	7.74
Females	- 2,518	1.54
	— 15,169	— 9.28
	— 17,771	—

The number of births of males and females in the Colony being pretty nearly equal, it follows that as we have a considerable preponderance of males in the population, supposing the mortality to be proportionately about equal, the deaths of males being numerically greater than of females, the excess of births over deaths of females will be greater than of males; or in other words, nearly the same number of males and females are born in the Colony, but, as many more males die, the excess of births over deaths will be smaller in males than in females, and the disparity will be in proportion to the difference in the proportion of the sexes. The great difference observable during the past year in this particular will be seen by comparing the following figures for 1874 with those already given for 1875. This is almost wholly accounted for by the increase in the disproportion of the sexes which has been effected during the year by the arrival of so many Chinese and Polynesians, composed as they are almost entirely of the male sex:—

Natural Increase, or excess of births over deaths in 1874.		Ratio of Increase over whole population of 1873.
Males	- 1,503	1.02
Females	- 2,086	1.42
	— 3,589	— 2.44
Increase from excess of Immi- gration over Emigration.		
Males	- 9,203	6.27
Females	- 4,035	2.75
	— 13,238	— 9.02
	— 16,827	—

QUEENSLAND. It will be seen that the excess of males in natural increase, births over deaths, in 1874 is only about a fourth lower than that of females, and that the excess from immigration of males is only a little more than double, as against more than five times that of females in the previous year.

The mean population being estimated for the year at 172,402, composed of 104,566 males and 67,836 females, is in the proportion of 64·87 females to 100 males of mean population, as against 67·67 to 100 in 1874.

The following table shows the proportion of females to a hundred males in each year from 1861 to 1875 inclusive, taken from the synoptical table on which the calculation is based on total, not on mean population.

B.—Showing the PROPORTION of FEMALES to 100 MALES.—Return for 15 years, 1861 to 1875.

Year.	Males.	Females.	Proportion of Females to every 100 Males.
1861	20,811	18,556	65·09
1862	27,186	17,891	62·14
1863	37,579	24,061	64·03
1864	45,516	28,520	62·66
1865	53,316	34,488	64·69
1866	57,307	38,894	67·87
1867	59,836	40,013	66·87
1868	65,843	41,584	63·12
1869	66,571	48,926	65·09
1870	69,629	45,938	66·29
1871	74,622	50,524	67·70
1872	79,618	53,935	67·74
1873	87,154	59,536	68·31
1874	97,860	65,657	67·09
1875	111,272	70,016	62·92

In the decennium ending 1874, the average proportion of females to 100 males in England and Wales was 105·36, in Victoria 79·60, in New South Wales 80·76, in South Australia 93·61, in Queensland 66·23. It would seem very desirable that the disproportion between the sexes should be as speedily as possible lessened by the introduction of a larger number of females in our immigration from Europe.

The subjoined table exhibits the increase by excess of immigration taking place by sea; also increase from excess of births over deaths, males and females, during 15 years, from 1861 to 1875 inclusive; showing also centesimal ratio of such increase to total population, and the proportion of females to males in total increase.

C.—Showing EXCESS of BIRTHS over DEATHS and of IMMIGRATION over EMIGRATION.—Return for 15 Years, 1860 to 1875.

Year.	Population on the 31st December.	Excess of Births over Deaths.			Year.	Excess of Immigration over Emigration.			Total increase to Population to 31st December.	Centesimal ratio to total Population to 31st December.	Proportion of Females to Males in total increase.
		Males.	Females.	Total.		Males.	Females.	Total.			
		Centesimal ratio to Population to 31st December.				Centesimal ratio to Population to 31st December.					
1861	34,367	383	541	924	3·29	1861		No returns.			
1862	45,077	387	518	905	2·63	1862	5,988	3,817	9,805	28·53	10,710
1863	61,640	296	650	946	2·09	1863	8,534	5,155	13,689	30·37	*16,563
1864	74,036	572	865	1,437	2·33	1864	7,365	3,594	10,959	17·77	12,396
1865	87,804	807	992	1,799	2·43	1865	6,993	4,976	11,969	16·17	18,768
1866	96,201	692	1,073	1,765	2·01	1866	3,299	3,333	6,632	7·55	8,397
1867	99,849	1,187	1,544	2,731	2·84	1867	1,342	—	917	0·95	3,648
							Less decrease in Females.	{ 425 — 917 }			3·79
											44·24
1868	107,427	1,102	1,559	2,661	2·66	1868	4,135	152	4,287	4·29	+7,578
1869	109,897	1,263	1,630	2,893	2·69	1869	—	—	‡	—	2,470
1870	115,567	1,495	1,765	3,260	2·96	1870	1,563	847	2,410	2·19	5,670
1871	125,146	1,484	1,936	3,420	2·96	1871	2,230	1,129	3,359	2·88	*9,579
1872	133,553	1,882	1,947	3,329	2·66	1872	3,614	1,464	5,078	4·05	8,407
1873	146,690	1,574	1,896	3,470	2·60	1873	5,963	3,704	9,667	7·24	13,137
1874	163,517	1,503	2,086	3,589	2·44	1874	9,203	4,035	13,238	9·02	16,827
1875	181,288	761	1,841	2,602	1·59	1875	12,651	2,518	15,169	9·28	17,771

* In addition to the increase by births over deaths, and immigration over emigration, the census taken 1st January 1864 showed a further addition of 1,928, being the difference between the estimated population and that ascertained by census.

† In this year also the census taken added 630 to the estimated population.

‡ In this year there was an excess of departures of 423.

§ In this year also the census taken added 2,800 to the estimated population.

The marriages, births, and deaths registered during the year are as follows:—

Marriages	-	-	1,487
Births	-	-	6,706
Deaths	-	-	4,104

In every thousand of the estimated mean population there have been 17·25 persons married, 38·89 births, and 23·80 deaths. The marriage rate of the year has been less than that of the mean marriage rate of the ten previous years, which was 18·78; the birth rate has been less than the mean of that decenniad, which was 42·94; the death rate has far exceeded the mean of that of the period named, which was 17·69.

The following table exhibits the number of marriages, births, and deaths for ten years, showing also ratio per thousand of each to mean population, also excess of births over deaths in each year numerical and centesimal, and the number of males to every hundred females who have been born and have died in each year.

QUEENSLAND. D.—MARRIAGES, BIRTHS, and DEATHS.—Return for 10 Years.

Year.	Persons Married.	Births.			Deaths.			Per 1,000 of Mean Population, Number of			Excess of Births over Number of Deaths.	Males to every 100 Females.		
		Males.	Females.	Persons.	Males.	Females.	Persons.	Persons married.	Births.	Deaths.		Number.	Per cent.	Born.
1866	2,136	2,188	1,989	4,127	1,446	916	2,362	23·20	44·85	25·67	1,765	74·8	107·5	157·9
1867	1,870	2,275	2,201	4,476	1,088	657	1,745	19·08	45·66	17·80	2,731	156·5	103·4	165·6
1868	1,726	2,267	2,193	4,460	1,165	634	1,799	16·64	43·03	17·36	2,661	147·9	103·4	188·7
1869	1,806	2,412	2,242	4,654	1,149	612	1,761	16·62	42·83	16·21	2,893	164·3	107·6	187·7
1870	1,758	2,555	2,350	4,905	1,060	585	1,645	15·58	43·51	14·59	3,260	198·1	108·7	181·2
1871	1,940	2,676	2,529	5,205	1,192	593	1,785	16·12	43·25	14·83	3,420	191·6	105·9	201·0
1872	2,250	2,620	2,645	5,265	1,238	698	1,936	17·38	40·70	14·79	3,329	171·9	99·0	177·3
1873	2,708	2,945	2,775	5,720	1,371	879	2,250	19·32	40·82	16·06	3,470	154·2	106·1	156·0
1874	2,680	3,280	3,103	6,383	1,777	1,017	2,794	17·27	41·15	18·01	3,589	128·4	105·7	174·7
1875	2,974	3,419	3,287	6,706	2,658	1,446	4,104	17·25	38·89	23·80	2,602	63·4	104·0	183·8
Total for 10 Years	21,848	26,587	25,314	51,901	14,144	8,037	22,181	—	—	—	29,720	—	—	—

Mean of ten years—Marriage rate, 17·84; birth rate, 42·47; death rate, 17·93.

Note.—The mean marriage rate for the ten years ending in 1874 was 18·78; the mean birth rate 42·94; the mean death rate 17·69.

Marriages.

A large proportion of marriages is regarded as an evidence of general prosperity, and if this were unfailing in its application, Queensland might be pronounced the most prosperous of all the British dependencies in this part of the world, the proportion of marriages to the mean population for the last ten years having considerably exceeded that in either of the other Australian colonies.

The fair amount of prosperity which has prevailed during the year now under consideration has been faithfully reflected by the number of persons married; these number 2,974, and are in excess of the number of persons married in the previous year by 294.

Marriage Rate.—The rate for the year of 17·25 persons married to each thousand of the mean population is very nearly the same as that of the previous year, which was 17·27 per thousand. From the increased disproportion of the sexes, induced as before shown, it might have been anticipated that the marriage rate would have been correspondingly low, and that it has been very nearly equal to that of the former year is the more satisfactory. It should be remarked that the average rate for the ten preceding years of 18·78 per thousand was swelled by the very high rates from some causes more or less difficult to determine which were reached during the earlier periods of our history. What may be considered the normal ratio will probably be somewhere near that which has obtained in the past year of 1875.

It might, perhaps, seem at the first blush somewhat difficult to **QUEENSLAND.** assign a sufficient reason for the fact remarked upon by the author of the Victorian Year Book, that the marriage rate in the Australian Colonies generally is lower than in England and Wales. Taking into account that in newly-settled countries there must be a comparatively small number of persons in the decline of life, and a large proportion of the community marriageable, the reverse of this might be naturally looked for; but the fact has its simple solution in the circumstance that there is a deficiency in the proportion of females, otherwise we could very speedily make a better exhibition. It is more remarkable that, as shown by the same author, there is a lower marriage rate in Victoria than in the other Colonies of Australia. For this there is no very obvious solution, but it is satisfactory to observe that Queensland is an exception to the rule, having a higher marriage rate than that of England and Wales, and much higher than that of the other Australian Colonies, notwithstanding that the disproportion of the sexes is greater here than in any of the other places alluded to. While in England and Wales during the last decenniad there were as many as 105.36 females to 100 males, the proportion in Queensland was only 66.23 of the former to 100 of the latter. The comparison in the same way with the other Colonies is highly favourable to us in this respect. It is only to be regretted that the general prosperity thus indicated cannot immediately be made more palpable among us by the presence of a greater number of marriageable females.

The following table shows marriage rates and the proportion of the sexes in the principal Australian Colonies and in England and Wales, and will be seen to bear out the comparison thus made.

E.—COMPARATIVE TABLE showing POPULATION to the end of the Year, NUMBER of MALES and FEMALES, MEAN POPULATION; NUMBER of MALES and FEMALES, PROPORTION of FEMALES to 100 MALES; NUMBER of MARRIAGES, MARRIAGES per 1,000, Persons Married per 1,000 in ENGLAND and WALES, VICTORIA, NEW SOUTH WALES, SOUTH AUSTRALIA, and QUEENSLAND.

Year.	Country.	Estimated Population at end of the Year.			Estimated Mean Population.			Proportion of Females to each 100 Males of the Mean Population.	Number of Marriages Registered during the Year.	Number to every 1,000 of the mean Population.
		Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.			
1863	England and Wales	—	—	—	10,427,146	10,982,538	21,409,684	105.33	187,776	8.75 17.50
	Victoria	365,317	278,595	643,912	361,416	273,859	635,275	75.77	4,253	6.69 13.38
	New South Wales	239,820	191,592	431,412	233,508	187,892	421,400	80.46	3,462	8.22 16.48
	South Australia	88,272	80,881	169,153	84,479	78,400	162,879	92.80	1,299	7.98 15.96
	Queensland	57,307	38,894	96,201	55,812	36,691	92,003	66.34	1,068	11.60 23.20
1867	England and Wales	—	—	—	10,557,066	11,120,459	21,677,525	105.34	179,154	8.25 16.50
	Victoria	372,239	287,648	659,887	368,778	283,122	651,899	76.77	4,490	6.88 13.76
	New South Wales	248,512	199,108	447,620	244,166	195,350	439,516	80.00	3,426	7.79 15.58
	South Australia	89,991	82,869	172,860	89,132	80,875	171,007	91.86	1,379	8.06 16.12
	Queensland	59,836	40,013	99,849	58,572	39,453	98,025	67.36	935	9.54 19.08

Year.	Country.	Estimated Population at end of the Year.			Estimated Mean Population.			Proportion of Females to each 100 Males of the Mean Population.	Number of Marriages Registered during the Year.	Number to every 1,000 of the Mean Population.	
		Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.				
1863	England and Wales	—	—	—	10,688,600	11,260,113	21,948,713	105·35	176,962	8·05 16·10	
	Victoria	384,859	299,457	684,316	378,549	293,553	672,102	77·55	4,692	6·98 13·96	
	New South Wales	260,414	206,351	466,765	254,463	202,729	457,192	79·67	3,736	8·17 16·34	
	South Australia	91,347	84,951	176,298	90,669	83,910	174,579	92·54	1,286	7·37 14·74	
	Queensland	65,843	41,584	107,427	62,839	40,799	103,638	64·98	863	8·32 16·64	
1869	England and Wales	—	—	—	10,821,775	11,401,524	22,223,299	105·36	176,970	7·95 15·90	
	Victoria	398,849	312,029	710,875	391,854	305,743	697,597	78·02	4,735	6·79 13·58	
	New South Wales	271,005	214,351	485,356	265,709	210,351	476,060	79·17	3,799	7·98 15·96	
	South Australia	93,860	87,286	181,126	92,604	86,118	178,722	93·00	1,211	6·78 13·56	
	Queensland	66,571	43,326	109,897	66,207	42,455	108,662	64·12	903	8·31 16·62	
1870	England and Wales	—	—	—	10,956,608	11,544,708	22,501,316	105·37	181,655	8·05 16·10	
	Victoria	397,956	326,769	724,725	398,402	319,399	717,801	80·17	4,732	6·59 13·18	
	New South Wales	280,350	222,511	502,861	275,678	218,431	494,109	79·23	3,848	7·79 15·58	
	South Australia	94,928	88,869	183,797	94,394	88,078	182,472	93·31	1,260	6·91 13·82	
	Queensland	69,629	45,938	115,567	65,100	44,632	112,732	65·54	879	7·79 15·58	
1871	England and Wales*	—	—	—	22,712,266	22,003,123	11,689,689	22,782,812	105·38	190,112	8·35 16·70
	Victoria	412,009	340,436	752,445	405,382	334,140	739,522	82·42	4,693	6·35 12·70	
	New South Wales	284,151	235,031	519,182	282,250	228,771	511,021	81·05	3,953	7·73 15·46	
	South Australia	96,915	90,936	187,851	95,922	89,902	185,824	93·72	1,250	6·73 13·56	
	Queensland	74,622	50,524	125,146	72,125	48,231	120,356	66·87	970	8·06 16·12	
1872	England and Wales	—	—	—	11,231,339	11,836,496	23,067,835	105·39	—	—	
	Victoria	419,903	350,824	770,727	415,956	345,630	761,586	83·09	4,791	6·29 12·58	
	New South Wales	295,680	243,510	539,190	290,416	239,270	529,186	82·39	3,925	7·42 14·84	
	South Australia	98,481	93,742	192,223	97,698	92,339	190,037	94·51	1,361	7·16 14·32	
	Queensland	79,618	53,935	138,553	77,120	52,230	129,350	67·73	1,125	8·69 17·38	
1873	England and Wales	—	—	—	11,371,273	11,985,141	23,356,414	105·40	—	—	
	Victoria	430,042	360,450	790,492	424,972	355,637	780,609	83·68	4,974	6·37 12·74	
	New South Wales	307,329	252,946	560,275	301,504	248,228	549,732	82·33	4,384	7·98 15·96	
	South Australia	101,540	96,535	198,075	100,010	95,139	195,149	95·13	1,562	8·00 10·60	
	Queensland	87,154	59,536	146,690	83,386	56,736	140,122	68·04	1,354	9·66 19·32	
1874	England and Wales	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
	Victoria	439,159	369,278	808,437	434,600	364,864	799,464	83·95	4,925	6·16 12·32	
	New South Wales	321,447	262,831	584,278	314,388	257,889	572,277	82·03	4,843	7·59 15·18	
	South Australia	104,870	99,753	204,623	103,205	98,144	201,349	95·09	1,611	8·00 16·00	
	Queensland	97,860	65,657	163,517	92,507	62,597	155,104	67·67	1,337	8·63 17·27	
1875	England and Wales	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
	Victoria	447,148	376,124	823,272	443,154	372,701	815,555	84·10	4,985	6·11 12·22	
	New South Wales	334,461	272,191	606,652	327,954	267,511	595,465	81·57	4,605	7·73 15·46	
	South Australia	107,944	102,498	210,442	106,407	101,126	207,533	95·04	1,663	8·01 16·02	
	Queensland	111,272	70,016	181,288	104,566	67,836	172,402	64·87	1,487	8·63 17·25	

* Census taken 2nd April 1871.

NOTE.—No data as to the population of England and Wales at the end of each year, excepting census year; the figures given above have been taken from the reports of the Registrar-General of England, who bases his calculations on the population as estimated to the 30th June. The mean population of Victoria, New South Wales, South Australia, and Queensland has been arrived at by adding together the numbers at the beginning and end of the year respectively, and dividing the sum.

Forms of Marriage.—Attention is directed by the Registrar-General in England to marriages effected under the forms of the Established Church, showing that these have diminished in number from 92 per cent., in the five years ending 1845, to 77 per cent. in the quinquennium 1866-70, and to 76 per cent. in 1871; and

that this is attributable to the steadily increasing number of marriages effected without any religious rites, as now permitted by British law, in the offices of the registrars; the rate of such marriages having been 10·0 per cent. in 1873, as against 2·3 in the five years ending 1845. An increase of such marriages is observable in Queensland, excepting only in the year 1874, when the number was a little lower than in the former year. The following table shows the number and centesimal rate of these marriages during the years 1871-5:—

The number of marriages celebrated by each religious denomination, as well as in the registry offices, with increase or decrease in the year 1875, over that of the previous year, are exhibited in the subjoined table:—

F.—COMPARATIVE TABLE showing NUMBER of MARRIAGES by each DENOMINATION for the Years 1874 and 1875, and the NUMERICAL and CENTESIMAL INCREASE or DECREASE as to each.

Denomination.	Marriages in 1874.	Marriages in 1875.	Numerical Increase* or Decrease† in 1875.	Centesimal Increase* or Decrease† in 1875.
Church of England - -	800	860	*60	*20·00
Church of Rome - -	257	313	*56	*21·79
Presbyterians and United Presbyterians - - -	285	214	†21	†8·94
Wesleyan - - -	96	92	†4	†4·17
Primitive Methodist - - -	84	95	*11	*13·10
United Methodist Free Church - -	4	—	†4	†100·00
Congregational - - -	56	84	*28	*50·00
Baptist - - -	26	31	*5	*19·23
Particular Baptist - - -	5	7	*2	*40·00
Lutheran - - -	118	92	†26	†22·03
Burnett Protestant Church - -	1	17	*16	*1600·00
Hebrew Church - -	—	1	*1	—
German Independent Church - -	—	—	—	—
Bible Christians - -	6	4	†2	†33·33
Registration and Justices Marrying Acts - - -	152	177	*25	*16·45
	1,340	1,487	*147	*10·97

Ages at Marriage.—Table VI., Appendix A, shows the ages at which persons have been married during the year. Read vertically, the table shows the number of wives at each age and the ages of their husbands when married; thus, as seen in the table, of 73 wives aged 17, two married husbands aged 40, and one married a husband aged 34, &c. Read horizontally, the table shows the number of husbands at each age with the ages of their wives when married; thus, of 6 husbands of the age of 52, one married a wife aged 18, one married a wife aged 22, &c.

Among the males the lowest age at marriage was 18, the greatest number were married at 25, the number diminishing with some fluctuations to the age of 60 years, and then, after some blanks in the intervening ages, one marriage is seen to have taken place at the venerable age of 74 years.

QUEENSLAND. — Among the females there are 4 marriages at 14 years of age, the lowest age recorded at marriage. The largest number of marriages, 230, are recorded as having taken place at the age of 21 years; the number then suddenly drops to 124 at 22 years, and at 56 years of age one is married to a husband aged 48 years.

Minors. — Of males there were 31 only married under the age of 21 years, while there were as many as 483 females married as minors. The rate of such marriages was, males 2·08, females 32·4 in a hundred.

The question of the tendency to later or earlier marriage among the population is one to which considerable importance is attached in old countries, and it is not without interest and significance in the rapidly progressing Colonies of Australia. In England and Wales, of every hundred men married in 1873, 8·2 were not of full age, and of every hundred women 22·4 were under 21 years of age. The ratio has nearly doubled in the last 30 years. As a general rule it is found that the number of minors who marry is lowest in those counties, in the old country, where skilled labour is least in demand.

Signature of Marriage Registers. — Under this head it has been the general custom in other places to record the number and proportion of persons registered as married under the rites of the several religious denominations who have made their marks instead of signing their names in the marriage registers, and for some reasons this might be desirable, but as this plan appears somewhat invidious, it is thought sufficient simply to show the proportion without denominational distinction.

In England much importance has been attached to the signing by mark or otherwise as a means of judging of the condition of the masses in reference to their possession or otherwise of the benefits of rudimentary education.

The question of education for the people has been effectually served in Great Britain by the use of the facts for a length of time dwelt upon by the Registrar-General of England bearing on this subject, as revealed by the marriage registers. It was shown that in 1841 no less than 41 per cent. of persons whose marriages were registered during the year in England and Wales were incapable of signing their own names. Great improvement has since been effected, education being now in a much more advanced state among the people generally; but in 1870 it is recorded on the same authority that as many as 20 per cent. of men and 27 per cent. of women were found signing by mark, and as late as 1873 18·8 per cent. of the men and 25·4 per cent. of the women married were found apparently unable to sign their own names in the marriage registers.

Perhaps nothing could be more immediately useful in showing the great superiority in educational advantages possessed by the million in the Australian Colonies, than a comparison between such a state of things and that which is happily found to exist here, where primary education has been long established on a most liberal footing, and is now made free and compulsory. Still, with the large accessions we are constantly receiving to our

numbers by immigration, it is important to observe the progress of the community at large in this most important particular, and the marriage certificates afford a means in this way of ascertaining with tolerable accuracy what proportion of the people in each year are yet destitute of the advantages of elementary education.

The following table shows the number of persons, males and females, married during the year in the Colony, who signed the registers by mark, and the proportion of such persons to each 100 married.

G.—Showing NUMBER of PERSONS, MALES and FEMALES, who signed MARRIAGE CERTIFICATE by Mark, and the Proportion per cent. to the TOTAL NUMBER of MARRIAGES.

Number of Marriages celebrated in 1874.	Number of Persons who signed Marriage Certificate by Mark.		Proportion to each 100 Married in the Year.		
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Mean.
1,487	135	267	9.08	17.96	13.52
		402			

It will be seen that 13.52 in a hundred signed by mark, or 9.08 in a hundred men, and 17.96 in a hundred women.

Births.

The number of Births registered during the year under review is 6,706. This is an increase of 323 over the number recorded in the former year, which was 6,383. This increase, however, is less than that of the two previous years. In 1874 the increase was 663 over that of the former year. The increase in 1873 was 445 over that of 1872.

The Birth rate in the past year has been 38.89 per thousand of the estimated mean population. This is a lower rate than has been recorded since 1857, when the rate was 38.52 per thousand; but it still compares favourably with that obtaining in England and Wales, in the Southern Australian Colonies, and in other countries of which the means of comparison are at hand. The returns contained in Australasian statistics of 1874, by the Government Statist of Victoria, gives the rates of increase per thousand of the mean population in the principal Australasian Colonies as follows:—

Victoria	-	-	-	33.56
New South Wales	-	-	-	38.75
South Australia	-	-	-	38.72
Western Australia	-	-	-	33.71
Tasmania	-	-	-	29.72

The average birth rate in the decenniad ending 1874, in Queensland, was 42.94.

QUEENSLAND.

With an equalisation of the sexes approaching to that existing generally in the older countries, the birth rate in Queensland would be very high, giving assurance of a large and rapid increase of this paramount source of wealth. It is presumed there can be little difference of opinion that an increase of population from natural causes will far outweigh in value any addition derivable directly from immigration, even leaving the cost of the latter entirely out of the question.

The last report on vital statistics recently received from the Registrar-General of England and Wales for 1873, shows the birth rate to be 35.5 per 1,000 of the mean population, and in making this comparison it should be borne in mind that there the proportion of the sexes is nearly equal, the number of females being a little in excess. In Victoria, where the proportion of females in 1874 was 83.95 to 100 males, the birth rate was 33.56 in the same year. In New South Wales, with a proportion of 82.03 of females to 100 males, the birth rate per 1,000, as given in General Australasian Statistics, is 38.75. With a proportion of only 64.87 females to 100 males in Queensland, the rate of increase of 38.89 per 1,000 must therefore be considered satisfactory. The lower birth rate during the year is attributable chiefly, no doubt, to an increased proportion of males in the population, resulting from the influx of Chinese caused by the attraction of our gold fields in the Palmer and Cook Districts.

It may be interesting to compare the proportion of births in the various centres of settlement in the Colony, and this will be seen in the following table giving number of births, males and females, in the several registry districts, a comparison between the years 1874 and 1875, and the proportion of births of the two sexes in the latter year.

H.—BIRTHS.—1874 and 1875.

Registry District.	1874.			1875.			Total Increase* or Decrease† in the latter year.	Total Increase* or Decrease† in the latter year.	Females born to every 100 Males born in 1874.	Females born to every 100 Males born in 1875.
	Males.	Females.	Persons.	Males.	Females.	Persons.				
Banana	-	9	3	12	6	5	11	+1	+8.33	33.33
Bowen	-	39	28	67	38	32	70	+3	+4.48	71.79
Brisbane	-	850	748	1,598	988	858	1,846	+248	+15.52	88.06
Cape River	-	3	1	4	1	2	3	+1	+25.00	33.33
Cardwell	-	13	16	29	7	9	16	+13	+44.88	123.07
Clermont	-	79	87	166	88	75	158	+8	+1.82	110.13
Condamine	-	13	9	22	8	11	19	+8	+13.63	69.23
Cooktown	-	7	7	14	20	32	52	+38	+271.42	100.00
Dalby	-	74	70	144	84	92	176	+32	+22.22	94.59
Dalrymple	-	—	1	1	—	—	—	+1	—	—
Gayndah	-	66	79	145	54	57	111	+34	+23.45	119.70
Gilbert River	-	12	10	22	10	11	21	+1	+4.54	83.33
Gladstone	-	41	41	82	25	32	57	+25	+30.49	100.00
Goodna	-	53	45	98	34	45	79	+19	+19.39	84.91
Goondiwindi	-	18	9	27	10	12	22	+5	+18.53	50.00
Gympie	-	169	118	287	142	131	273	+14	+9.88	69.82
Ipswich	-	388	384	772	362	360	702	+70	+9.06	98.97
Leyburn	-	17	11	28	12	21	33	+6	+17.86	64.70
Logan	-	83	68	151	95	74	169	+18	+11.92	81.83
Mackay	-	59	65	124	82	77	159	+36	+28.23	110.17
Maryborough	-	274	280	554	305	310	615	+81	+15.17	91.24
Mitchell	-	8	10	18	11	15	26	+8	+44.44	125.00
Nanango	-	4	7	11	7	8	15	+4	+36.36	175.00
Norman	-	1	3	4	2	2	4	—	—	300.00

Registry. District.	1874.			1875.			Total Increase* or Decrease in the latter year.	Total Increase* or Decrease per cent. in the latter year.	Females born to every 100 Males born in 1874.	Females born to every 100 Males born in 1875.
	Males.	Females.	Persons.	Males.	Females.	Persons.				
Palmer -	5	1	6	2	4	6	-	20·00	200·00	
Paroo -	1	1	2	1	3	*1	*50·00	100·00	50·00	
Ravenswood -	66	75	141	76	83	*18	*12·77	113·64	109·21	
Rockhampton -	296	289	585	278	263	541	*44	*7·52	97·64	94·60
Roma -	52	57	109	43	43	86	*23	*21·10	109·61	100·00
Somerset -	-	-	-	-	3	3	*3	-	-	
Springure -	15	32	47	20	22	42	*5	*10·84	213·33	110·00
Stanthorpe -	87	78	165	72	67	139	*26	*15·75	89·86	98·06
St. George -	20	10	30	19	19	38	*8	*28·66	50·00	100·00
St. Lawrence -	14	18	32	19	19	38	*6	*18·75	128·57	100·00
Surat -	11	7	18	9	8	12	*2	*11·11	63·63	150·00
Taroom -	4	11	15	7	5	12	*3	*20·00	275·00	71·43
Toowoomba -	284	285	469	269	261	530	*61	*13·01	100·42	97·06
Townsville -	49	45	94	62	48	110	*16	*17·02	91·84	77·42
Warrego, North -	11	7	18	4	13	17	*1	*5·55	68·68	325·00
Warrego, South -	1	1	2	2	8	10	*8	*400·00	100·00	400·00
Warwick -	134	156	290	160	155	315	*25	*8·62	116·57	96·88
Total -	3,280	3,103	6,383	3,419	3,287	6,706	*620	5·06	94·60	96·14
Less decrease in some districts -				297						
Net increase in 1875 -				*323				5·09		

It will be observed that there was a decrease in the following districts:—Banana, Cape River, Cardwell, Clermont, Condamine, Dalrymple, Gayndah, Gilbert River, Gladstone, Goodna, Goondiwindi, Gympie, Ipswich, Rockhampton, Roma, Springsure, Stanthorpe, Taroom, Warrego North. In two of the districts the births numbered the same as in 1874. In all the remainder of the districts there was an increase, and in several of them the increase was large.

I.—BIRTHS.—Increase and Decrease in each Registry District in 1875.

Registry District.	Increase.	Registry District.	Decrease.
Bowen -	-	Banana -	-
Brisbane -	248	Cape River -	-
Cooktown -	38	Cardwell -	-
Dalby -	32	Clermont -	-
Leyburn -	5	Condamine -	-
Logan -	18	Dalrymple -	-
Mackay -	35	Gayndah -	-
Maryborough -	81	Gilbert River -	-
Mitchell -	8	Gladstone -	-
Nanango -	4	Goodna -	-
Paroo -	1	Goondiwindi -	-
Ravenswood -	18	Gympie -	-
Somerset -	3	Ipswich -	-
St. George -	8	Rockhampton -	-
St. Lawrence -	6	Roma -	-
Surat -	2	Springsure -	-
Toowoomba -	61	Stanthorpe -	-
Townsville -	16	Taroom -	-
Warrego, South -	8	Warrego North -	-
Warwick -	25		
	620		297
Less decrease in some districts -			
- 297			
Net increase in 1875 -			
323			

QUEENSLAND. During the year under review, the registers in Queensland have not, as in one or two previous years, exhibited any exception to the almost universal rule of a higher number of births of males than of females. In Europe, generally, the proportion has been found to be 106 males to 100 females. The proportions in the Colony during the year 1875 have been 3,419 males to 3,287 females, or 104 males to 100 females.

The proportion per cent. of males born in the year to the whole estimated mean number of males living in the Colony was 3.26. Of females, the proportion born to estimated mean number of females living was 4.84.

Twin Births.—There have been 122 twins born during the past year, 68 males and 54 females. This year has exceeded the previous one in the bestowal of its rare favours in this respect by 8, the number of twins born during the former year being 114.

Triplet Births.—There has been one case of triplets, all females, this being an exact imitation of what had been accomplished in this manner in the year 1874.

Illegitimate Births.—The births of this description, appearing as such in the register, number 230, being in the proportion of 3.42 per cent. of the whole number of births registered in the year. In the Brisbane District these show a centesimal rate of 1.23 on the whole number, and in all the other districts taken together of 2.19 to all the births registered. The proportion of births out of wedlock in 1874 was 2.75. The rate in the United Kingdom in 1873 was 5.2, and the average rate for the previous 10 years was 5.9.

Deaths.

In the last report it was intimated that this part of our vital statistics for the year 1875 would prove more unsatisfactory than that of 1874, and bear a less favourable comparison with it than that had borne with the former year. Unhappily, the fear then expressed has been very fully confirmed as the process of tabulating the death returns has proceeded, and it is unsatisfactory now to have to report a higher rate of mortality for 1875 than had been previously known, excepting only the two years of 1863 and 1866. As many as 4,104 deaths are recorded in the registers for the year under review; this number being 1,310 in excess of deaths in 1874; the increase of the number of deaths over that of the previous year having been 544. The proportion of deaths of males and females as recorded is 2,658 males, and 1,446 females. As the births registered are 6,706, there is an excess of births over deaths of 2,602, in the ratio of 63.4 per cent.

Death Rate.—It is observable that the number of deaths as compared to population has been much higher, and that the number of births has been lower, in the past year than for several years previously. The death rate during the year has been in the proportion of 23.8 per thousand.

This is a higher rate than has been known in the Colony since 1866, when it reached 25·6 per thousand. It compares unfavourably even with the mortality in England and Wales, which for a considerable number of years has averaged 22·4 per thousand. The average rate for the ten years in Victoria has been 15·5, in New South Wales 15·0, and in Queensland for the decenniad ending 1874, 17·6 per thousand.

The number of deaths, males and females, and the death rate per thousand of mean population in Queensland, is seen by the following table:—

J.—Showing the DEATHS and the PROPORTION to MEAN POPULATION in each Year.—Return for Ten Years, 1866-1875.

Year.	Population.						Deaths.						Proportion of Total Numbers to Mean Population.	
	Estimated Population on 31st December.			Estimated Mean Population.			Number and Proportion.			Total Number.				
	Males.	Females.	Persons.	Males.	Females.	Persons.	Males.	Per 1,000.	Females.	Per 1,000.	Males.	Females.	Persons.	
1866	57,307	38,894	96,201	55,312	36,891	92,003	1,446	15·72	916	9·96	1,446	916	2,362	25·67
1867	59,836	40,013	99,849	68,572	39,453	98,025	1,083	11·10	687	6·70	1,088	657	1,745	17·80
1868	65,843	41,584	107,427	62,839	40,799	103,638	1,163	11·24	634	6·12	1,165	634	1,799	17·38
1869	66,571	43,326	109,897	66,207	42,455	108,662	1,149	10·57	612	5·63	1,149	612	1,761	16·21
1870	69,629	45,938	115,567	68,100	44,632	112,732	1,060	9·40	585	5·19	1,060	585	1,645	14·59
1871	74,622	50,524	125,146	72,125	48,231	120,356	1,192	9·90	593	4·93	1,192	593	1,785	14·83
1872	79,618	53,935	133,553	77,120	52,230	129,350	1,238	9·57	698	5·39	1,238	698	1,936	14·96
1873	87,154	59,536	146,690	88,386	56,736	140,922	1,371	9·78	879	6·27	1,371	879	2,250	16·06
1874	97,880	65,657	163,517	92,507	62,596	155,103	1,777	11·45	1,017	6·56	1,777	1,017	2,794	18·01
1875	111,272	70,016	181,288	104,566	67,836	172,402	2,658	15·42	1,446	8·39	2,658	1,446	4,104	23·81

In looking at the greatly increased mortality for the year, it may be some satisfaction to reflect that some general causes have existed, not only in the Australian Colonies generally, but almost the world over, rendering the past season one of exceptional unhealthiness; but a comparison between the mortality in Queensland and the other Australian Colonies during the year is not very reassuring in this direction. The death rate in New South Wales, the only Colony from which the vital statistics have as yet been received, exhibits an increased death rate, but not in nearly the proportion shown in our own returns; and a comparison between the mortality between the town and country districts in this Colony during the year under review, shows very plainly that the increased unhealthiness of the Colony is attributable to a state of things suffered to exist in the more important centres of population rather than to any generally prevailing causes.

As the general condition of the healthfulness or otherwise in any locality is, perhaps, in almost all cases faithfully reflected by the mortality of young children, it may be well to consider this in connexion with—

QUEENSLAND.

Infantile Mortality.

The deaths of children under one year, and the total deaths of children under five years, in 1874 and in 1875 in each of the registry districts, both town and country, are seen in the following table, which also shows the proportion of deaths under five years to the total deaths in the districts, and the per-cent-age of deaths of children under one year to the total *births*, which latter comparison affords, in fact, the test of what is properly called infantile mortality.

K.—DEATHS under ONE YEAR, and PER-CENTAGE to TOTAL BIRTHS in the DISTRICT, and DEATHS under FIVE YEARS, with PER-CENTAGE to TOTAL DEATHS in the DISTRICTS, Years 1874 and 1875.

Registry District.	1874.		1875.		Total Increase* or Decrease† in the Deaths of Children under One Year.	Total Increase* or Decrease† in the Deaths of Children under Five Years.	Per-cent-age of Deaths of Children under Five Years to Total Deaths in the District.	Per-cent-age of Deaths of Children under One Year to Total Births in the District.
	Under One Year.	Total under Five Years.	Under One Year.	Total under Five Years.				
Banana -	—	—	1	1	* 1	1	33.33	9.09
Bowen -	6	8	4	7	† 2	† 1	29.17	5.71
Brisbane -	262	415	340	712	* 78	* 297	56.10	18.41
Cape River -	—	—	2	2	* 2	* 2	66.66	66.66
Cardwell -	5	7	3	6	† 2	† 1	24.00	18.75
Clermont -	11	16	21	22	* 10	* 6	53.66	13.29
Condamine -	—	—	1	2	* 1	* 2	28.57	5.26
Cooktown -	3	9	17	27	* 14	* 18	11.84	32.69
Dalby -	16	21	18	27	* 2	* 6	50.00	10.23
Dalrymple -	1	1	1	1	—	—	100.00	—
Gayndah -	13	18	11	18	† 2	—	51.43	9.91
Gilberton -	8	8	1	2	† 7	† 6	18.66	4.76
Gladstone -	6	11	5	5	† 1	† 6	33.33	8.77
Goodna -	8	12	13	18	* 5	* 6	40.90	16.46
Goondiwindi -	1	1	1	2	—	* 1	15.39	4.54
Gympie -	22	39	33	55	* 11	* 16	57.29	12.09
Ipswich -	77	115	80	172	* 3	* 57	56.03	11.38
Leyburn -	2	5	1	1	† 1	† 4	12.50	3.03
Logan -	20	30	23	31	* 3	* 1	54.38	13.61
Mackay -	20	29	24	34	* 4	* 5	19.77	15.09
Maryborough -	84	136	114	191	* 30	* 55	37.09	18.64
Mitchell -	1	2	3	4	* 2	* 2	17.39	11.54
Nanango -	—	—	1	1	—	* 1	25.00	6.66
Norman -	—	—	2	2	* 2	* 2	18.18	50.00
Palmer -	1	3	1	1	—	* 1	0.66	16.66
Paroo -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ravenswood -	10	16	23	25	* 13	* 9	56.82	14.46
Rockhampton -	74	116	101	161	* 27	* 45	47.08	18.67
Roma -	6	8	15	20	* 9	* 12	46.51	17.44
Somerset -	—	—	2	2	* 2	* 2	12.50	66.66
Springsure -	3	3	4	6	* 1	* 3	20.69	9.53
Stanthorpe -	17	29	17	24	—	* 5	64.86	12.23
St. George -	2	5	1	2	† 1	† 3	11.11	2.63
St. Lawrence -	3	3	3	4	—	* 1	23.53	7.89
Surat -	2	3	1	1	† 1	† 2	100.00	5.00
Taroom -	2	2	1	1	† 1	† 1	25.00	8.33
Toowoomba -	45	75	79	134	* 34	* 59	58.26	14.90
Townsville -	17	22	24	35	* 7	* 13	49.30	21.88
North Warrego -	2	2	1	1	† 1	† 1	6.66	5.88
South Warrego -	—	—	1	1	* 1	* 1	20.00	10.00
Warwick -	26	36	31	63	* 5	* 27	56.25	9.84
Total -	776	1,205	1,025	1,824	—	—	—	—

In several of the districts, as it will be seen, the inhabitants are so few that the figures showing per-centages afford no proper means of comparison; but rejecting these, the table plainly shows

that the death-rate of children under five years is lower in the QUEENSLAND. country districts generally than in the towns. The per-cent-age is the highest in Stanthorpe, which shows 64.86 to total deaths of children under five in the district of Stanthorpe. The next in order is Toowoomba, showing 58.26; then Gympie, 57.29; Warwick comes next, 56.25; Brisbane, 56.10; Ipswich, 56.03; Logan, 54.38; Rockhampton shows well by comparison, having only 47.08 deaths of children under five years to total deaths in the districts, and Maryborough compares still better, showing only 37.9. The average rate for the whole Colony, as seen by table M., is 44.44.

In the last annual report attention was called to the erroneous conclusions that may have been formed by a comparison of deaths of children under five with total deaths, in a community containing but a small proportion of persons far advanced in life, as well as to the true test of infantile mortality as laid down by the Registrar-General of England, that is, the deaths of children under one, as compared to the number of births. It is observable that the two last-named places, while showing the lowest number of deaths of children under five years as compared to total deaths, yet show the highest rate of deaths of children under one year to number of births. As tried by the test alluded to, they make the worst exhibition of any of the principal places in the Colony during the year; Maryborough showing 18.54, and Rockhampton 18.67. Brisbane, although not comparing unfavourably with some of the other centres of population in the Colony in its proportion of deaths of children under five years, as compared to total deaths in the district of Brisbane, yet suffers considerably by comparison when tried by the true test of infantile mortality, showing a higher per-cent-age of deaths of children under one year to total births than any of the other places, Rockhampton and Maryborough alone excepted, the rate being 18.41. Warwick on the other hand, shows most favourably, the rate of deaths under one year to births being only 9.84.

It is not satisfactory to contemplate the subject of the gradually increasing unhealthiness of our towns, especially considering the general salubrity of our Queensland climate, upon which we justly prided ourselves during the earlier years of our existence as a separate Colony, when, as applied to its older settlements at least, it was affirmed that "endemic diseases were unknown, and "epidemics were of rare occurrence."

While the death rate of children under five years in the towns has been very high, there is yet no reason to conclude that the climate of the Colony generally is specially unfavourable to children; indeed the reverse of this, rather than otherwise, is apparent by the application of the true test of infantile mortality, namely, the proportion of deaths under one year to the number of births throughout the whole of the Colony. The following table shows this proportion during 10 years:—

QUEENSLAND. L.—Showing real INFANT MORTALITY.—Return for Ten Years, 1866–1875.

1866.	1867.	1868.	1869.	1870.	1871.	1872.	1873.	1874.	1875.	Average annual No. of Deaths to 100 Births.
16·72	12·91	12·88	11·35	10·72	9·91	10·98	12·25	12·15	15·28	12·46

It is seen by the report of the Registrar-General of England in 1870, that 16 deaths of children under one year occurred to each 100 births in England and Wales; while in 17 of the largest towns the average was 18·3 per cent. In Queensland, as seen by the above table, the per-cent-age was 15·28 during the past year, while the average for 10 previous years was only 12·57. The general infantile mortality in the Colony is thus seen to be comparatively low.

The following table shows the deaths of children from one month to five years, and the proportion of such deaths in the Brisbane and other districts:—

M.—Showing MORTALITY of CHILDREN from ONE MONTH to FIVE YEARS in the METROPOLITAN and COUNTRY DISTRICTS, 1875.

District and Sex.	Total Number of Deaths in 1875.	Deaths of Children under One Year.						Total Deaths under One Year.	Percentage to Total Deaths in the District.	Percentage to Total Deaths in the Colony.	Total Deaths under Two Years.	Percentage to Total Deaths in the District.	Percentage to Total Deaths in the Colony.	Total Deaths under Five Years.	Percentage to Total Deaths in the District.	Percentage to Total Deaths in the Colony.	
		Under One Month.	One Month and under Two Months.	Two Months and under Three Months.	Three Months and under Six Months.	Six Months and under Twelve Months.	—										
Brisbane District:																	
Males - -	702	43	20	15	42	64	184	14·50	4·48	283	22·30	6·89	371	29·23	9·04		
Females - -	567	43	15	16	37	45	156	12·29	3·80	235	18·52	5·73	341	20·87	8·31		
Total - -	1,269	86	35	31	79	109	340	26·79	8·28	518	40·82	12·62	712	56·10	17·35		
Country Districts:																	
Males - -	1,956	123	32	38	66	112	371	13·09	9·04	489	17·25	11·91	582	20·53	14·18		
Females - -	879	103	36	17	64	94	314	11·07	7·65	447	15·77	10·89	530	18·60	12·91		
Total - -	2,835	226	68	55	130	206	685	24·16	16·69	936	33·02	22·80	1,112	39·22	27·09		
Grand Total -	4,104	312	103	86	209	315	1,025	—	24·97	1,454	—	35·42	1,824	—	44·44		

When considering the healthfulness of the country districts as compared with the towns, it is necessary to bear in mind that the death-roll is swelled in the metropolitan districts by the number who, in cases of dangerous illness, come in from the country for the advantage of hospital accommodation, or to be within reach of the best medical advice; and that this is particularly applicable to Brisbane, to which the greater number of such persons necessarily resort, many of them coming only to die. The number of deaths which have occurred in the general hospital and other public institutions in the city or its vicinity during the past year is shown as follows:—

			QUEENSLAND.
Brisbane Hospital	-	-	112
Benevolent Asylum	-	-	13
Diamantina Orphanage	-	-	30
St. Vincent's Orphanage	-	-	4
Infants' Asylum	-	-	19
Lunatic Reception House	-	-	4
Lock Hospital	-	-	Nil.
Gaol	-	-	1
Penal Establishment	-	-	3
Total	-	-	<u>186</u>

Mortality of Polynesians.—The death rate has been very high among the South Sea Islanders. The estimated mean number of this class for the year being 4,441, and 378 deaths among them having been registered, the death rate is 85.11 per 1,000. The general death rate for the year being 23.18, the mortality among Polynesians is seen to be nearly as 4 to 1 of the general mortality, although there are few, if any, young children among them, and on this account, other things being equal, the death rate should be lower than among other races in the Colony. The chief causes of death have been dysentery and measles.

It is intended that a brief report of births and deaths registered in the Brisbane district should be issued monthly, and now that the census and registry districts are made to correspond, and the census returns have determined the population of the city and suburbs, which together form the registry district of Brisbane, the exact proportion of births and deaths to population can be shown. The causes of deaths will also be given in these monthly reports, and a ready means will thus be furnished of observing the prevalence or decline of miasmatic diseases especially, with the general healthfulness or otherwise of the successive periods of the year.

Mortality from preventible causes is a subject which forces itself upon our most serious attention in these Colonies; for, in spite of the natural healthfulness of the Australian climate, our dry atmosphere, and our forests of eucalypti exhaling their prophylactic odours, we have the frequent occurrence of sporadic disease, and the prevalence of epidemics to an extent which threatens to render our boasted healthfulness altogether a thing of the past. The causes of this are not far to seek, in our larger towns especially, where an imperfect system of drainage, and a general neglect of the means of cleanliness, are but too apparent. For this we have certainly no excuse of ignorance, for never than now were the laws of health better understood; but presuming upon the natural salubrity of the climate, and too busily engaged in other ways, there is a general carelessness manifest in the construction of our houses, the formation of our towns, the keeping of our streets, and the general arrangements which are necessary for securing health in closely crowded communities, which seem to call aloud for some legislative action to compel an observance of sanitary laws before the evil grows into a form too monstrous for control. Reverting to the consideration of the subject, as far

QUEENSLAND. as this Colony only is concerned, it is to a certain degree satisfactory that attention has been at length more effectually aroused, and that measures are already set on foot to remedy the evils which have resulted from past negligence. The pressing necessity of our condition here has recently elicited, in connexion with the establishment of a system of drainage for the metropolis, some valuable practical suggestions; and, in addition to the main drainage of the city, it is to be hoped that before long we shall have some such plan brought into operation as that of the celebrated Dutch engineer, Captain Liernur, which is said to have been so complete a success in Amsterdam, and is to be applied in the great Russian capital. The system is the removal by pneumatic drainage of excrementitious matter, then carried off in air-tight vessels, and effectually utilised at once on the surrounding lands. Or, should this be considered too costly, we should certainly have the establishment of deodorising works, or the earth-closet system effectually carried out, alongside of the main drainage for liquid sewage.

It has been well said, in an article in the London *Times*, "that the only sound basis for the prevention of disease is afforded by an intimate knowledge of the natural history and modes of propagation of each single malady." Referring to the fact that typhoid fever is spread abroad chiefly, and probably exclusively, by the discharges from a specific eruption, that is to say, discharges from the intestines, which, in the natural course, find their way into cesspools and sewers, the writer proceeds—"if the poisonous character of the discharges were in all cases destroyed by chemical agency before they were cast away, the disease would speedily, as far as our present knowledge of its nature enables us to predict, disappear out of the land."

These remarks are suggestive of the right methods of grappling with the death-dealing maladies which are increasing among us; and if, in connexion with an efficient water-supply, main sewerage, subsidiary house drainage, and inoffensive removal or deodorisation of closet contents, we could have all our growing towns brought under the provisions of a wise building Act, securing for the future wide streets planted with shade trees, open spaces at frequent intervals supplied with fountains and well-kept trees and shrubs, with a clause in the Act that would render the destruction of our health-generating gum-trees within a certain distance of our townships a penal offence, severely punishable, we might yet hope to enjoy in Queensland as large a share of health as is generally allotted to mortals in any part of the world.

The following table shows the proportion of marriages, births, and deaths per thousand of living persons which have occurred in the year under review within the municipality of Brisbane, outside the municipality, but within the Registry District of Brisbane; also in all other districts of the Colony collectively, excepting the metropolis, as nearly as can be estimated, and in the whole of the Colony taken together, showing also the excess of births over deaths:—

N.—NUMBER of BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, and DEATHS Registered in 1875.

Estimated Population to Dec. 31, 1875.	Within Municipality of Brisbane.	District outside the Municipality of Brisbane.	The whole Brisbane District.			All other Districts in the Colony, except Brisbane.			The whole Colony.		
			Deaths.	Mariages.	Births.	Deaths.	Mariages.	Births.	Deaths.	Mariages.	Births.
Number registered											
Proportion per 1,000 of persons living within municipality	—	1,036	376	753	810	44	516	1,846	420	1,269	4,860
Proportion per 1,000 of persons living within Brisbane District, outside municipality	*21,293	48.65	17.66	35.36	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Proportion per 1,000 of persons living in whole Brisbane district.	*20,837	—	—	—	38.87	2.11	24.76	—	—	—	—
Proportion per 1,000 of persons living within all other districts, except Brisbane	*42,130	—	—	—	—	—	43.82	9.97	30.12	—	—
Proportion per 1,000 of persons living within the whole Colony	*139,158	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	34.92	7.67	20.87
Excess of births over deaths	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	36.99
			283	294	577	2,025	2,602	8.20	22.64		

* This is an approximate estimate, as nearly as can be ascertained, to show the proportion of births, marriages, and deaths in the metropolitan and country districts.

QUEENSLAND. The census taken on the 1st of May 1876 has furnished the means of ascertaining very closely the population of the municipality of Brisbane at the end of 1875, taken apart from the remainder of the registry district of Brisbane, which, up to the end of the year, embraced what has since been formed into three additional country districts. It is thus seen that in Table M. of Vital Statistics of 1874, the population of the municipality of Brisbane, then given as an approximation as near as could be made, was over-estimated, while the numbers outside the municipal bounds were under-stated. This will account for the high rate of mortality shown outside as compared to that within the municipality. The correct number being now ascertained, it will be seen by the above table that the mortality in Brisbane proper has reached during the year the very high rate of 35.36 per thousand of the estimated population to the end of the year.

The registry district of Brisbane being now reduced to an area extending to an average distance of only about three quarters of a mile beyond the municipal bounds, the outside portions of it are properly the suburbs of the city, and for the future the monthly reports will show the mortality of the city of Brisbane and of its suburbs.

The following exhibits the proportion of persons married, and of births and deaths per thousand persons living in the decennia from 1866 to 1875 inclusive, in the whole Colony, giving also excess of births over deaths in each of those years:—

O.—Showing Proportion of BIRTHS, DEATHS, and MARRIAGES per 1,000 Persons living.—Return for Ten Years, 1866–1875.

Year.	Estimated Mean Population	Per 1,000 Persons living.			Excess of Births over Deaths.
		Births.	Deaths.	Persons Married.	
1866	92,003	44.8	25.6	23.2	1,765
1867	98,025	45.7	17.8	19.0	2,731
1868	103,638	43.0	17.3	16.6	2,661
1869	108,662	42.8	16.2	16.6	2,893
1870	112,732	43.5	14.6	15.5	3,260
1871	120,356	43.2	14.8	16.2	3,420
1872	129,350	40.7	15.0	17.3	3,329
1873	140,122	40.8	16.0	19.3	3,470
1874	155,103	41.1	18.0	17.2	3,589
1875	172,402	38.9	23.8	17.2	2,602

Marine Births and Deaths.

The German immigration having ceased, at least for a time, the comparison of mortality in vessels arriving at our several ports is

now between those bringing British, Chinese, and Polynesian ~~QUEENSLAND~~ immigrants ; this will be seen as follows :—

P.—MARINE BIRTHS and DEATHS.

Number of Vessels.	—	Arrivals.			Births.			Deaths.					
		Males.	Females.	Persons.	Males.	Females.	Persons.	Rate per cent. Arrivals.	Males.	Females.	Persons.	Rate per cent. Arrivals.	
17	British ships— Immigrant vessels	-	3,170	2,439	5,659	17	28	45	7952	37	20	57	1.0072
20	Short ships	-	157	55	212	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	.4717
	Total	-	3,327	2,544	5,871	17	28	45	—	38	20	58	—
33	Polynesians— Immigrant vessels	-	2,615	67	2,682	—	—	—	—	52	—	52	1.9888
	Ships arriving <i>via</i> Torres Straits, bringing chiefly Chinese	-	—	—	7,686	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
			5,942	2,611	16,239	17	28	45	—	90	20	110	—
	Increase* or decrease† of deaths over births								-	-	*73	†8	*65

The table shows that the death rate on board ships arriving in the Colony, bringing chiefly Europeans, has been 0.99 per cent. ; in those from the South Sea Islands, 1.9* per cent. In the vessels arriving *via* Torres Straits, bringing a large number of Chinese, no deaths had been reported.

The passage from Great Britain during the past year has averaged $109\frac{1}{2}$ days ; that from the Islands averaged 10 days ; while the passage from Hong Kong, at which most of the Chinese embark, occupies about 15 days to Cooktown, where nearly the whole of the Chinese have been landed in the Colony.

The births on board ships direct from Great Britain, bringing chiefly immigrants, have numbered 45 ; the deaths having been 13 in excess of births.

Registration.

Names on the Registers, and Searches.—By "The Registration of Births, Deaths, and Marriages Act," 19 Vict., No. 34, and "The Marriage Act," 28 Vict., No. 15, all certificates or certified copies of the entries of marriages, births, or deaths duly registered in the Colony must be signed by the registrars, and have a seal affixed, authorised by the Registrar-General, and such certificates so sealed are to be received in all courts of justice as evidence of the marriages, births, or deaths to which the same relate without any further or other proof of the entry.

* The high rate of mortality in ships bringing Polynesians is accounted for by the prevalence of measles in the South Sea Islands during the year 1875.

QUEENSLAND. The records of this office, the General Registry Office of Brisbane, exhibit the names of all persons registered as born or married or as having died in all the registry districts. Taking those registered since the period of our separate existence as a Colony, the collective number of names to the end of the year 1875 is 108,321. These are contained in indices, arranged in alphabetical order for convenience of reference.

Every entry, including those received monthly from the country districts, as soon as received at this office, are at once placed in a rough index, under a general alphabetical heading sufficiently convenient for searches, and anyone giving the names of the persons and the year of the event can secure the immediate production of any entry of marriage, birth, or death.

A more strictly alphabetical arrangement is afterwards made in the perfected form of index, which should be kept written up every month. In consequence of the increasing work of the Registry Department these had fallen into arrears, the permanent indices not having been made since the end of 1873.

I have recommended that the English method of printing the indices should be adopted, and, authority having been given for this, they are now in the press, and will shortly be issued, printed in a bold clear type and in a most convenient form for reference, complete from the beginning of the year 1874 to the present time. The advantage of this over the old manuscript form of index will be at once apparent, for convenience of reference, for diminishing liability to error, and in the lessened bulk of the indices, the space needed for the printed names being less than one-fourth of that required in the written copies. But, beyond this, it appeared most undesirable that one copy only of these important documents should be in existence, as in case of loss or mutilation the greatest possible inconvenience would arise. In this view the printing of the whole series from the beginning might be gravely considered, regardless of the cost. In the meantime we shall now have the perfect indices in manuscript to the end of 1873, and thenceforward in the more convenient and valuable printed form, of which several copies will be kept for security.

The Acts of Parliament before alluded to provide that the fees for searches and copies of entries shall be as follows:—

	s.	d.
Searches for births and deaths	-	5 0
Searches for marriages	-	2 0
Certified copy of entry of marriage	-	2 0
Certified copy of birth or death	-	2 0

It is not quite apparent why the fee for a search for marriage should be less than that for a birth or death, nor why certified copies of births and deaths should be less than searches for the same. The statutory fees in England are 1s. for search or reference, and 2s. 6d. for the certified copy of any entry. This is a matter of some importance, both for accommodation of the public and as a question of revenue. It is thought an improvement

would be effected by raising the fees for certified copies of entries QUEENSLAND. of marriages, births, and deaths to half-a-crown, and fixing the fee for searches at the uniform rate of 3s. 6d. for marriages, births, or deaths.

The fees received during the year 1875 at the General Registry Office* have been as follows:—

	£	s.	d.
For searches of births and deaths	-	10	0
For other searches	-	4	14
For certified copies of entries	-	21	12
For fines for late registration	-	44	7
 Total	 -	 80	 13
			0

Causes of Death.

Diseases and causes of death are classed under a system generally adopted in Great Britain and the Colonies, as follows:—

1. Zymotic; 2. Constitutional; 3. Local; 4. Developmental; 5. Violence; each embracing several subdivisions or orders. The general scheme of classification will be found immediately following this report and preceding the tables.

In Table XI., in Appendix A., all the deaths which have occurred in the Colony during the year are arranged so as to show the number of persons, males and females, who have died under such class and order in each month of the year. The table also shows the period of life at which such deaths have occurred.

The ordinary prevalence of diseases of certain descriptions depends so much on general sanitary regulations as to be to a great extent under control, and much is now being done, especially in Great Britain, to give practical effect to what is known of the laws of health and the means of preventing disease. What are properly called preventible diseases, chiefly from among the long list of ailments of the miasmatic order, are still found fatally to prevail in a large proportion in comparison to other causes of death. There had been a general diminution of deaths from these diseases from 1866 to 1872, but there is an increase in a similar proportion in the two succeeding years, and there is a very large increase in the year under consideration, showing, indeed, the highest per-cent-age ever before realised. The following table shows the per-cent-age which the several causes of death have borne to the total deaths in each year, and it will be seen that the rate of mortality from diseases of the miasmatic order of the zymotic class has increased from 27.59 in 1874 to 37.18 in 1875. The highest rate in any previous year was in 1866, when it reached 36.33.

* Excepting only fines for late registration, the fees received at the offices in the other districts are retained by the district registrars, who are paid only by the fees they are authorised to charge.

QUEENSLAND.

Q.—TABLE comparing the PER-CENTAGE which the several CAUSES of DEATHS bear to the TOTAL DEATHS in each YEAR.—Return for 10 Years, 1866 to 1875.

Causes of Death.	1866.	1867.	1868.	1869.	1870.	1871.	1872.	1873.	1874.	1875.	
I.—ZYMOTIC DISEASES.											
1. Miasmatic diseases	-	36·33	25·73	26·35	23·17	23·83	22·12	20·56	25·02	27·59	37·18
2. Enthetic diseases	-	·42	·06	·22	·68	·24	·44	·57	·53	·43	·12
3. Dietic diseases	-	1·61	·86	1·61	1·07	1·09	1·28	1·39	1·60	2·39	1·22
4. Parasitic diseases	-	·51	·75	·28	·45	·12	·66	·10	·58	·47	·58
Total	-	38·87	27·40	28·46	25·37	25·28	24·50	22·62	27·73	30·89	39·10
II.—CONSTITUTIONAL DISEASES.											
1. Diathetic diseases	-	1·91	2·80	3·28	2·21	2·80	2·18	2·17	2·22	2·39	1·88
2. Tubercular diseases	-	7·41	8·25	9·00	8·98	8·63	9·02	8·78	9·24	7·84	7·60
Total	-	9·32	11·05	12·28	11·19	11·43	11·20	10·95	11·47	10·24	9·48
III.—LOCAL DISEASES.											
1. Diseases of the nervous system	-	10·46	13·87	13·00	14·31	15·08	15·91	15·03	12·93	12·63	10·65
2. Diseases of the organs of circulation	-	2·92	3·33	3·28	4·05	4·26	4·31	4·03	3·69	3·58	2·58
3. Diseases of respiratory system	-	3·64	5·79	5·23	5·39	7·11	7·28	8·42	8·09	5·01	5·41
4. Diseases of digestive organs	-	4·10	5·04	4·50	4·49	5·47	5·26	6·46	6·00	5·55	4·34
5. Diseases of urinary organs	-	·51	·40	·61	·61	·67	1·28	·57	1·02	·79	·97
6. Diseases of organs of generation	-	·13	·17	·22	·11	—	·22	·26	·09	·11	·07
7. Diseases of joints	-	·13	·11	·06	·06	·16	·27	·20	·18	·29	·22
8. Diseases of integumentary system	-	·17	·23	·17	·11	·12	·16	·15	·22	·32	·22
Total	-	22·06	28·99	27·07	29·13	32·87	35·19	35·17	32·22	28·27	24·46
IV.—DEVELOPMENTAL DISEASES.											
1. Diseases of children	-	4·61	5·33	5·50	5·34	4·62	3·86	5·53	3·91	4·12	4·53
2. Diseases of adults	-	·76	·92	·72	1·59	1·34	1·23	1·39	·58	1·07	·88
3. Diseases of old people	-	1·19	1·72	2·22	1·47	1·64	2·35	2·22	1·38	1·93	1·07
4. Diseases of nutrition	-	8·21	7·39	8·45	8·40	7·36	7·95	8·10	10·00	9·66	8·58
Total	-	14·77	15·36	16·89	16·80	14·96	15·39	17·25	15·87	16·78	15·01
V.—VIOLENCE.											
1. Accident or negligence	-	6·64	9·80	9·67	10·62	11·30	9·30	9·50	8·84	9·70	7·65
2. Wounds in battle	-	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
3. Homicide	-	·63	·34	·61	·51	·79	·78	1·39	·62	·75	·44
4. Suicide	-	·82	·46	·45	·51	·55	·44	·46	·98	·36	·56
5. Execution	-	·04	—	·06	·17	·24	—	·05	—	·07	—
Total	-	8·13	10·60	10·79	11·81	12·88	10·52	11·41	10·44	10·88	8·65
Violent deaths, not classed	-	—	—	—	—	—	·11	—	—	·07	—
Sudden deaths, cause not ascertained	-	·17	·29	·11	·06	·18	·05	—	—	·93	·15
Deaths, cause ill-defined and unspecified	-	6·69	5·79	4·40	5·05	2·49	2·91	2·58	2·27	1·93	3·14
		6·86	6·08	4·51	5·11	2·67	3·07	2·58	2·27	2·93	3·29

Table R. shows that this class of diseases has been fatally prevalent in a much more than average proportion in the Brisbane district during the year.

R.

QUEENSLAND.

Per-cent of Deaths, Brisbane District, for 1875.				Brisbane District, 1875, Per-cent to Total Deaths in Colony.			
Causes of Death.		—		Causes of Death.		—	
I.—ZYMOTIC DISEASES.							
1. Miasmatic diseases	-	-	41·22	1. Miasmatic diseases	-	-	12·75
2. Enthetic diseases	-	-	0·23	2. Enthetic diseases	-	-	0·07
3. Dietic diseases	-	-	0·87	3. Dietic diseases	-	-	0·27
4. Parasitic diseases	-	-	1·10	4. Parasitic diseases	-	-	0·34
Total	-	-	43·42	Total	-	-	13·43
II.—CONSTITUTIONAL DISEASES.							
1. Diathetic diseases	-	-	2·76	1. Diathetic diseases	-	-	0·85
2. Tubercular diseases	-	-	8·19	2. Tubercular diseases	-	-	2·53
Total	-	-	10·95	Total	-	-	3·38
III.—LOCAL DISEASES.							
1. Diseases of the nervous system	-	10·24		1. Diseases of nervous system	-	3·17	
2. Diseases of the organs of circulation	-	1·97		2. Diseases of organs of circulation	-	0·61	
3. Diseases of the respiratory system	-	4·57		3. Diseases of respiratory system	-	1·41	
4. Diseases of the digestive organs	-	4·10		4. Diseases of digestive organs	-	1·27	
5. Diseases of the urinary organs	-	1·58		5. Diseases of urinary organs	-	0·49	
6. Diseases of the organs of generation	-	—		6. Diseases of organs of generation	-	—	
7. Diseases of the joints	-	0·40		7. Diseases of the joints	-	0·12	
8. Diseases of the integumentary system	-	0·47		8. Diseases of the integumentary system	-	0·14	
Total	-	23·33		Total	-	7·21	
IV.—DEVELOPMENTAL DISEASES.							
1. Diseases of children	-	8·88		1. Diseases of children	-	1·19	
2. Diseases of adults	-	1·10		2. Diseases of adults	-	0·34	
3. Diseases of old people	-	1·42		3. Diseases of old people	-	0·44	
4. Diseases of nutrition	-	9·85		4. Diseases of nutrition	-	3·05	
Total	-	16·23		Total	-	5·02	
V.—VIOLENCE.							
1. Accident or negligence	-	4·80		1. Accident	-	1·49	
2. Wounds in battle	-	—		2. Homicide	-	0·05	
3. Homicide	-	0·16		3. Suicide	-	0·02	
4. Suicide	-	0·08		4. Execution	-	—	
Total	-	5·04		Total	-	1·56	
Sudden deaths, cause not ascertained	-	—		Deaths, cause not ascertained	-	—	
Deaths, cause ill-defined	-	0·24		Deaths, cause ill-defined	-	0·07	
Deaths, cause unspecified	-	0·79		Deaths, cause unspecified, &c.	-	0·25	
Total from all causes	-	100·00		Total deaths, Brisbane	-	30·92	

The death rate from miasmatic diseases in the Brisbane district is seen to have been 41·22 per cent., the average for the Colony being 12·74 per cent. This table also exhibits the per-cent of deaths from other diseases in the Brisbane district, and the per-cent of deaths in the metropolitan district compared to that obtaining in the whole Colony from all causes of death under their proper order and class.

Table XV. in Appendix A. shows the causes of death in the Colony during the year, arranged in the order of degree of fatality. It is a dismal record, the columns showing an increase of deaths from each particular form of disease throughout almost the whole list.

QUEENSLAND. — “Dysentery” stands first in order of fatality. This was the case also in the former year, and the number of deaths then recorded under this head was considered high at 222; but during the last year the number has been more than doubled, 455 deaths having been thus occasioned

“Remittent Fever” has proved very fatal, having caused 230 deaths, as against 116 in 1874. “Typhus Fever” shows, also, 158 deaths as against 78 in the previous year.

“Measles,” of all the diseases, has proved, in comparison with the former year, the most fatal. The deaths thus caused in 1875 are 178 as against 1 only in 1874.

“Alcoholism” is set down as the cause of 21 deaths, as against 36 in 1874. Possibly this might also have been credited with a good number of the 30 cases of fatal brain disease which are recorded, and similarly with a proportion of the 29 cases of deaths from sunstroke.

“Diphtheria.”—The number of deaths from this cause have again risen to 62 in the past year, as against 47 in the previous year, though not reaching the height recorded in 1873, when there were 73 deaths returned as caused by this disease.

The next in the order of fatality among the Zymotic class is “Scarlatina,” which has caused 51 deaths, as against 10 only in the former year, showing an increase of 41.

Under the second class “Constitutional,” in the second order “Tubercular diseases,” “Phthisis” figures much more largely than usual as a cause of death during the year. The number of fatal cases of this disease are 228, as against 163 in the previous year.

“Hydrocephalus” has proved fatal in 31 cases, as against 21 in 1874.

Of the third class, local diseases, that of “Convulsions” has proved very fatal, this cause of death standing only second to dysentery in the order of fatality in the whole list. The number of deaths thus produced is set down at 290, as against 216 in the previous year.

Without further reference to their classification it may be sufficient here to compare the fatality of the following diseases in the two past years:—

1875—	Heart disease	92,	the number in 1874,	86
“	Bronchitis	73,	”	35
“	Pneumonia	72,	”	48
“	Croup	67,	”	55
“	Apoplexy	30,	”	44

The season seems to have proved unusually unfavourable to persons advanced in life, as “old age” does not stand nearly so low down on the list in the order of fatality as in 1874, the number being 28, as against 9 only in the former year.

“Violence.”—Deaths from this cause have been numerous during the year. First in order under this head is drowning, which figures largely, even more so than in 1874, when 120 deaths were recorded from this cause, while during the year 1875 127 persons have thus met with an untimely end.

It is not pleasant to observe that the number of cases of suicide have been unusually large. No less than 23 deaths have been thus brought about. QUEENSLAND. —

"Murder."—Ten cases of murder by blacks have taken place during the year, and eight other cases are recorded.

Death by lightning occurred in one instance, three cases of this kind having taken place in 1874.

In concluding this report upon the vital statistics of the year, which presents a much less favourable aspect than is usual among us, it may not be out of place briefly to call attention to what has been accomplished in the way of prevention of disease by modern appliances.

The department of science which treats of the phenomena of the death rate as affecting the calculation of premature mortality, with a view to the removal of its causes in large communities, has of late years assumed great importance; and the careful attention now paid to sanitary science, with the considerable success which has attended the efforts made to improve the condition of healthfulness of the great towns and country districts, especially in Great Britain, by good drainage and sewerage, and a full and a regular supply of pure water, are abundantly sufficient to satisfy us that the remedy for a largely increasing mortality in these Colonies is to a great extent in our own hands.

The most fertile causes of disease and death in Australia, as elsewhere, are absence of drainage, accumulation of filth, bad ventilation, impure water, uncleanly personal habits, unwholesome food, and excess in its several forms.

There are parts of England where only 15 persons per thousand die annually, while in other parts the average rate reaches 30 per thousand. In London the average is 25, in the country districts of England and Wales it is 20 per thousand.* If by sanitary precautions, the average death rate could be reduced to 15 it is easy to calculate how great a saving of life would be the result; for instance, in England and Wales, in 1873, the mean population being 23,356,414, the number of deaths registered was 492,520, in the ratio of 21.1 per thousand; if this rate could have been reduced to 15 per thousand, the number of lives saved in that year would have been 142,388. So in Queensland, during the year 1875, the mean population being 172,402, the deaths having been 4,104, the death rate is 23.8 per thousand: if this could have been reduced to 15, the number of lives saved in the year would have been 1,518.

* In an article on public health in the "Quarterly Journal of Science," 1868, it is stated that at Sandown, in the Isle of Wight, which is thoroughly drained and well supplied with pure water, the death rate for the last five years has been only 11 in a thousand. As a contrast, we may take the village of Childs Hill, in the parish of Hendon, in which there is no efficient drainage, and where the open cess-pools connected with the closets often overflow into the ditches and discharge their contents into the River Brent. Here, out of an entire population of a thousand there were 70 deaths in 1867, mainly from epidemic typhoid. The death rate at Liverpool not long before this, reached 70 per thousand.

QUEENSLAND. It has been well said, "that in contrast to the powerlessness of curative medicine, the power of preventing disease is about the happiest possession of science." The evidence of the highest authorities proves that many of the worst diseases may be prevented by due attention to sanitary works. It is those of the miasmatic order which seem most under control. Many of these owe their origin to fungi, definite organic structures in the evacuations of persons suffering from these diseases. The celebrated German mycologist, Professor Hallier, speaking especially of one of the most fearful of the diseases propagated in this way, says:—"It cannot be too distinctly understood that the person who contracts cholera in this country, is, *ipso facto*, demonstrated with almost absolute certainty to have been exposed to excremental pollution,—that which gave him cholera was immediately or mediately cholera contagium discharged from another's bowels—that, in short, the diffusion of cholera among us, depends entirely upon the number of filthy facilities which are let exist, especially in our larger towns, for the fouling of earth, and air, and water, and thus secondarily for the infection of man with whatever contagion may be contained in the miscellaneous overflows of the population. The mere quantity of wasted life is horrible to contemplate, and the mode in which the waste is caused is surely nothing less than shameful. It is to be hoped that, as the education of the country advances, this sort of thing will come to an end; that so much preventible death will not always be accepted as a fate; that for a population to be thus poisoned by its own excrement, will some day be deemed ignominious and intolerable."

In 1865, authority was given in England to inquire into the amount of benefit that had resulted from works of sanitary improvement. It was applied to 24 towns, containing together a population of 600,000. Omitting the influence of cholera, it was found on a comparison of several years subsequent to, with a like period prior to, the establishment of such works, that there had been a distinct and, in some cases, almost regular diminution of the death rate in all but five out of the 24 places, and in some of them from 24 to 18½ per cent. during the period. In several of these towns, where plenty of good water and effectual drainage and sewerage had been secured, typhoid fever had diminished, during the period so compared, from 75 to 60 per cent. In concluding his report on this subject, Dr. Buchanan remarks:—"The progress made by the inhabitants in most of the towns in decency, cleanliness, self-respect, and morality, was at the least as striking as the improvement in their health, measured by the standard of the mortality returns."

Coming to the latest official information received through the Registrar-General of England, it is reported that, "Under the wise provisions of 'The Public Health Act of 1872,' especially, urban and rural sanitary districts are established under the authority of boards of guardians. Under these arrangements as many as 1,523 sanitary districts have been established in

“ England and Wales,* in the care of appointed medical officers QUEENSLAND.
“ whose duty it is to watch over the health of the people residing
“ within these areas, and to carry on the great work of sanitary
“ reform.” It is officially reported that “in many of these
“ districts there are traces of the good effects of the remedial
“ work of some of these sanitary *presidiae*;—impure water supply
“ has been stopped, overcrowding lessened, defective drainage
“ remedied; and death rates have consequently been reduced.
“ But just as the physician, besides being called in to heal, has
“ sometimes to administer a prophylactic to prevent others being
“ infected, so it will be the duty of local sanitary authorities,
“ acting on the principle that prevention is better than cure,
“ to appoint medical health officers before the population has
“ crowded into dense districts, and to watch over the formation of
“ new towns.”

There is surely something in this practical dealing in the old country which we might do well to imitate on a larger scale than has yet been attempted. We have our Central Board of Health in Brisbane, and similar boards established in several other towns, and much good is doubtless resulting from their operation, but a general and thorough system after the English model seems needed to be carried into effect in all the principal centres of settlement throughout the Colony. The heavy death rate revealed by our registers during the past year is seriously admonitory to us, and there appears something specially suited to our circumstances in these rapidly rising Colonies in this idea of laying the foundation of our towns in good sanitary bases, upon which we may proceed to build up our superstructures in confidence and security.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HENRY JORDAN,
The Hon. the Colonial Secretary. Registrar-General.

* This number, it appears, has since been increased to nearly 2,000.

TASMANIA.

TASMANIA.

No. 11.

Governor WELD, C.M.G., to The EARL OF CARNARVON.

Government House, Hobart Town,

MY LORD,

September 1, 1876.

I HAVE the honour now to transmit to your Lordship the statistics of this Colony for the year 1875, which have just reached me.

2. Though no very striking forward movement has marked the year, I think that Mr. Nowell, the statistician, is fully justified in considering that on the whole the condition of the Colony during the past year has been one of progress; whether improvement is to be stimulated, and retrogression where it exists is to be checked, will much depend on the exertions of the people themselves and the wisdom of the Legislature. No doubt exists in my mind that if proper facilities are given for the working of the tin mines by affording means of communication with shipping ports, fresh agricultural districts opened out for the benefit of small farmers and immigrants, and other means taken to develop the mining and agricultural industries and attract population, the small progress we are now making will shortly ripen into great prosperity. As things are now, it is not to be wondered at that the balance of immigration and emigration is, and has been for many years, somewhat against Tasmania. There is not sufficient scope at present here for young men, and the result is that many of the more enterprising of the native youth leave the land of their birth for larger and more promising fields. The high price of meat, too, and the character of part of the occupied country, is causing, and will naturally cause, land year by year to be taken away from agriculture and laid down in artificial grasses. Feeding stock requires less labour than agriculture, and, so far as I see, must pay better over a great part of this Colony; and that much of the agricultural land will be turned to pasture I consider inevitable, whilst on that part of the long occupied country which will still be retained for agriculture, higher farming, carried on by greater attention to root crops, combined with feeding cattle, should be increasingly attended to, and machinery be largely used. It is to the newer and only partially occupied parts of the country that the Colony must look for establishing a population of bush farmers on the rich timber lands, and one of miners amongst the hills. As in New Zealand, here also there are districts especially adapted for such classes, and the natural tendency and fitness of certain kinds of country for certain classes of occupation will assert itself here as there. Indeed, it is doing so elsewhere in defiance of the legislative attempts which in some Colonies have

been made to force labour and capital out of their natural channels. In New Zealand no such attempt has been made; in districts where pastoral pursuits and expenditure of large capital naturally pay best, they have been allowed to take their course unhampered, but, on the other hand, the State has actively promoted the settlement by a peasant and yeoman class of districts especially fitted for small farms. Were such a policy adopted here I think the balance of immigration would soon be in our favour. Tasmania has yet much unoccupied land of first rate quality specially fitted for small settlers.

3. Your Lordship will observe that the value of the exports of Tasmania for 1875 per head of the population is 10*l.* 9*s.*, a figure higher than that of any preceding year of the decade, their total value is 1,085,976*l.*, as against 925,325*l.* for 1874. More than half of this increase is due to the increased production, and still more to the increased value of wool. The present low price of that product will be felt less deeply perhaps by Tasmanian growers than by others, not only on account of the great excellence of their flocks, but of the high price of meat in Tasmania as compared with that of other Australian Colonies.

4. Tin has risen from 4 tons of ore in 1873 to 366 tons of smelted tin in 1875, and a further rapid increase may be anticipated.

5. Jam and preserved fruits show an increase of 203,818 lbs., but there is a decrease of 20,538 bushels of green fruit. The quantity of hops and number of live stock exported show a diminution on the year, but in value an increase. There is an increase in the value of bark, timber, whale oil, and oats. Wheat shows a decrease of 55,914 bushels.

6. There was a slight decrease in the yield of gold, but there is reason to believe that it will be more than recovered in next year's statistics, as one or two of the quartz-crushing companies are doing very well. The Port Lempriere Ironworks, which were opened by me in person a few months ago, will also, it may be presumed, add iron to our next year's exports.

7. Imports have decreased by 71,843*l.*, or 5*·*71 per cent., being valued at 1,185,942*l.* in 1875, or 11*l.* 8*s.* 3*d.* per head of the population, as against 1,257,785*l.* in 1874. The statistician, however, believes that the imports of the present year will show an increase, with the exception, of course, of railway material, which, to the value of 58,281*l.*, swelled the imports of 1874. It must, however, be noted that the imports of 1875, though somewhat less than those of 1874, exceeded those of any other year of the decennial period.

8. One deduction of great interest may be drawn from Mr. Nowell's report, which clearly shows that the effect of the protectionist tariff of Victoria, our nearest neighbour, has been to divert our trade from Melbourne to England, New South Wales, and other Colonies both as regards imports and exports.

9. Our shipping returns to and from all countries show a slight

TASMANIA. increase, though the number of our whalers has decreased. Nine vessels have been built for colonial trade.

10. The condition of trades and manufactories is fairly good. Wages have shown a tendency to rise, and the demand for labour at the mines and tin workings has been in excess of the supply.

11. With regard to revenue, the increase has been continuous since 1870. The total revenue for 1875 was 343,676*l.*, against 333,732*l.* for 1874. It is probable, however, that fresh taxation will have to be resorted to for public works and roads, and to meet the demands on account of railway construction—works, however, of an eminently reproductive nature.

12. The bank returns, show a very great increase of deposits, which have doubled in 10 years, and there is also a satisfactory similar increase in the savings banks.

13. The receipts of the post office have also increased, as has the business of the telegraph offices and the revenue of the Launceston and Western Railway Line. The Main Line has only been opened during the current year.

14. Much may yet be done to improve the penal establishments, but on the whole public institutions are fairly good, and the new Norfolk Lunatic Asylum might serve as a model for older and richer countries.

15. There has been a total increase of 6,296 acres of land under cultivation; the greatest decrease under the head of wheat, the greatest increase under those of hay, permanent grasses, and miscellaneous. The use of machinery in agricultural operations has on the whole increased. The number of live stock is also somewhat in excess of former years.

16. As Mr. Nowell's statistics are full and elaborate, I have thought it unnecessary to enter into detail, and to overburthen this report with figures, and have confined myself to a general summary of the points which appear to me to call for special notice; and I trust that your Lordship will, on comparing it with the accompanying documents, think with me that the Colony is still recovering from the depression under which it had for some time laboured, and is in a hopeful and satisfactory position.

I have, &c.

(Signed) FRED. A. WELD,

The Right Hon. the Earl of Carnarvon, Governor.
&c. &c. &c.

To the Honourable the Colonial Secretary.

Legislative Council Office, Hobart Town,

SIR,

August 25, 1876.

I HAVE the honour to place in your hands herewith the statistics of this Colony for the year 1875.

In the present volume I have endeavoured, as far as circumstances will allow, to carry into effect the recommendations of the Statistical Conference of January 1875; and, in consequence, a

large number of changes have been made with a view of assimilating our statistics to those of the other Colonies. These changes required long and anxious consideration, and have very greatly increased the labour and difficulty—which was burdensome enough under ordinary circumstances—of our statistical work.

This being the tenth year since the duty of compiling the official statistics of the Colony has devolved upon me, decennial tables have been added in all cases in which the information was deemed of sufficient importance to make it worth while to incur the labour of preparation and expense of printing; and, in order to keep down as much as possible the bulk of the volume, some of the ordinary returns have been condensed. I believe both of these changes will be found to be great improvements.

It is a mere act of justice on my part to acknowledge the very valuable aid rendered by my sole assistant, Mr. J. J. Barnard, who has laboured with very unusual zeal and intelligence, and devoted his whole energies to his work. Without such a collaborateur it would have been simply impossible for me to effect many of the improvements which have been introduced into the present volume; and I trust that his services may be recognised by some substantial increase to his remuneration.

I.—*Blue Book.*

Part I. consists almost entirely of new matter, and forms what is called in the other Australasian Colonies the "Blue Book." I have adopted that title for the sake of uniformity, though it appears scarcely applicable, inasmuch as the contents are but a very small portion of the information which, before the establishment of what is called "responsible government" in these Colonies, was annually furnished to the Secretary of State under the Colonial Regulations.

In this part will be found lists of Governors, ministries, Parliaments, Members of the Councils and of the House of Assembly, foreign consuls, and pensions. The return of the civil establishment, which is usually included in the "Blue Book," has been left in its former place at the end of the volume, for convenience sake, since, if it were placed near the beginning, the printing would be delayed, inasmuch as the materials for its compilation have never yet been furnished complete until after a considerable portion of the volume has been put in type.

As regards this division there are only two facts which need be noted. The one is, that since 1st November 1856, when the system of "responsible government" was inaugurated, to the 20th July of the present year, when the late ministry ceased to hold office, there were 11 changes of government, giving 1.78 or about $1\frac{3}{4}$ years as the average duration of each. The other fact which I have to notice is, that in the same period there were six Parliaments, making the average duration of each $3\frac{1}{4}$ years, or, since a lustrum is the extreme limit fixed by the Constitution for the life of a Parliament in this Colony, $\frac{13}{20}$ ths of its full term.

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II.—*Population.*

The population on 31st December 1875 is estimated to have been 103,663, consisting, of males 54,643, females 49,020, being a decrease of 513 persons. The addition to the population by excess of births over deaths was 1,027, against 1,408 in 1874; the difference being caused entirely by the larger number of deaths in 1875, since the births were more numerous.

The balance of immigration and emigration was, as in previous years, against the Colony, the excess of the latter over the former being 1,540 persons. In the year 1874 the excess was returned as 1,449. It is necessary to explain why the number appears larger in the one year than the other. The Statistical Conference recommended that the number of persons who left any given Colony should be returned as ascertained, not at the port of departure, but at the port of arrival, where it can be more accurately enumerated; and this principle has now for the first time been applied. Our emigration takes place principally to three Colonies, Victoria, New South Wales, and New Zealand. The statistics of the two latter Colonies do not enable us to discover how many persons arrived there from Tasmania, but those of Victoria show that the influx hence into that Colony was, in 1874, 7,188; in 1873, 7,108; or for the two years, 14,296; the number, as shown by our emigration returns, being respectively 6,631 and 6,491, or together 13,122, which is less than the true number by 1,174.

While, therefore, it is quite true that the tendency of the current of population to flow from Tasmania towards the larger Colonies, which has been observed for so many years past, continued to operate during 1875, there is no reason to conclude that it had in any way increased. Indeed, the fact that the departures for Victoria decreased from 7,188 to 7,086 points in the contrary direction.

Of the persons who left the Colony, 87.75 per cent. went to Victoria; 7.64 per cent. to New South Wales; 30 per cent. to Queensland; 21 per cent. to South Australia; 3.93 per cent. to New Zealand; and 17 per cent. to the United Kingdom. Of those who arrived in it, 89.20 per cent. came from Victoria; 9.52 per cent. from New South Wales; 11 per cent. from South Australia; 26 per cent. from Western Australia; 67 per cent. from New Zealand; 23 per cent. from the United Kingdom.

Included in the return just referred to were 16 "bounty" immigrants, being 2 fewer than in 1874.

For the information of persons residing out of the Colony, it may be useful to mention that in 1867 an Act (31 Vict., No. 26) was passed for the encouragement of immigration to Tasmania. As amended by Act 38 Vict., No. 16, it provides that each immigrant who shall have been approved by an agent to be appointed by the Immigration Board for the purposes of the Act, who shall have arrived direct from Europe, and have paid the full cost of the passage of himself and family, shall receive a "land order

warrant," entitling him to one "land order," available in payment *pro tanto* for land purchased at auction sale or selected for purchase under the Waste Lands Act, to the value of 18*l.* for each person of 15 years and upwards, and of 9*l.* for each child between 12 months and 15 years, whom he may so introduce. Another clause provides that any cabin or intermediate passenger from Europe, India, or any other country except Australia or New Zealand, arriving here with the intention of settling and paying his own passage, if he has not already obtained a "land order," may, within 12 months after arrival, claim a "certificate," available instead of payment, authorising him to select 30 acres of land for himself, 20 for his wife, and 10 for each child. In both the cases provided for by this Act the land to become the absolute property of the immigrant only after five years continuous residence from the date of the land order or certificate, as the case may be. If a person so entitled to land die before the expiration of the five years, a "grant" may, after such five years, be issued to his heirs or devisee, if 1*l.* per acre has been spent in permanent improvements. The "land order" to be applied for within 12 months after the arrival of the immigrant himself, or his wife and each child.

III.—*Trade, Commerce, and Navigation.*

The value of goods imported during the year amounted to 1,185,942*l.* against 1,257,785*l.* in 1874, being a decrease of 71,843*l.*, or 5.71 per cent.

The rate per head of imports in 1875, calculated on the mean population, 11*l.* 8*s.* 3*d.*, was the highest, with the exception of 1874, in the 10 years; the next highest having been 10*l.* 13*s.* 9*½d.* in 1873.

The state of trade with the different countries in 1874 and 1875 is shown below:—

Countries.	Imports.		Increase (+) or Decrease (-).
	1874.	1875.	
United Kingdom -	546,502	505,101	- 41,401
Victoria -	558,113	529,710	- 28,403
New South Wales -	50,247	60,647	+ 10,400
Queensland -	11,498	9,762	- 1,736
South Australia -	775	8,615	+ 2,840
Western Australia -	—	315	+ 315
New Zealand -	3,180	3,332	+ 152
Mauritius -	82,365	68,332	- 19,033
South Seas -	5,105	4,545	- 560
United States -	—	5,583	+ 5,583

The proportions per cent. which the imports from each country bore to the total imports in 1875, as compared with the average of four years (1867-70), were—

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		1875.	1867-70.
United Kingdom	-	42.59	36.19
Victoria	-	44.67	50.33
New South Wales	-	5.11	4.89
Queensland	-	.82	.74
South Australia	-	.30	.31
New Zealand	-	.28	.50
Mauritius	-	5.34	6.29
United States	-	.47	—

The transfer of commerce from Victoria to the United Kingdom, to the extent of about 6 per cent., is highly instructive, as furnishing another illustration of the invariable law that "protective" duties, so called, so far from protecting the trade of the country that resorts to them, only tend to destroy it, and to divert commerce with its various profits to other countries, where it can be carried on with greater freedom. Small as the absolute amount may be, compared with the operations of larger States, this change is an additional proof, if any were needed, of the wisdom of that enlightened trade policy which England has now for many years pursued, and which has already produced such splendid results.

On comparing the values of the articles in which the principal differences occur as between the two last years, we find the following *increases* :—

	£
On ironmongery, hardware, &c. -	15,220
,, live stock (horses, cattle, and sheep) -	6,760
,, machinery -	22,725
,, Government stores (not previously returned) -	12,480
,, coals -	4,010
,, timber -	5,098
,, <i>ad valorem</i> goods -	4,644
	<hr/>
	70,937

The following showed *decreases* :—

	£
On hides and skins -	6,282
,, manures -	5,857
,, sugar -	27,502
,, woollens (including blankets) -	3,398
,, drapery -	43,673
,, railway material -	58,281
,, spirits -	633
,, wine -	3,112
,, malt liquors -	4,073
	<hr/>
	£152,811

The principal decreases are thus shown to have occurred on sugar, drapery, and railway material. The last, of course, was caused by the fact that the greater part of the material required for the main line having been imported before last year, the shipments consequently fell off as it approached completion. As regards the former, not only were the quantities *imported* less than in the previous year, but those entered for home consumption seem to have been also less; the decrement being as follows:—

On sugar, cwts. - - - - 10,100
 ,, drapery, cubic feet - - - - 8,050

As to liquors on which duty was paid in 1875, on spirits there was an increase of 2,589 gallons; on wine, an increase of 771 gallons; on malt liquors, a decrease of 12,855 gallons. On other dutiable articles entered for home consumption there were the following increases:—

Beef, pork, and mutton, lbs. - - - -	64,827	Grain, barley, lbs. - 303,850
Butter, lbs. - - - -	9,188	„ wheat, lbs. - 336,983
Chicory, lbs. - - - -	20,321	Gunny bags, No. - 49,292
Coal and coke, tons - - - -	3,977	Oatmeal, lbs. - - 8,764
Cocoa, lbs. - - - -	6,422	Paints, mixed, lbs. - 93,913
Copperas and blue- stone, lbs. - - - -	15,834	Rice, lbs. - - 164,150
Corn sacks, No. - - - -	20,498	Starch, lbs. - - 44,239
Fish, dried, lbs. - - - -	12,554	Tea, lbs. - - 29,920
Glass, crown, sheet, and plate, cubic feet - - - -	32,888	Timber, cubic feet - 18,464
		White lead, lbs. - 19,404

Referring to the decennial return, we find that the total value of the imports in 1875 was greater than in any other year of the period, with the exception of 1874. Comparing the average in the last five years with that in the first five, there appears to have been an increase of 156,846*l.*, or 18·02 per cent.

In accordance with the recommendation of the conference, a return has been added on this occasion of the quantities of goods in bonding warehouses on the 31st December. The stocks were generally pretty much the same in the last two years. But in regard to the following articles there were considerable differences, as will be seen by placing the quantities in both years in juxtaposition:—

	—	1874.	1875.
More { coffee, lbs.	- - - -	5,664	19,375
spirits, rum, gallons	- - - -	9,219	15,226
beef and pork, lbs.	- - - -	43,148	23,897
chicory, lbs.	- - - -	15,828	7,844
pepper, lbs.	- - - -	11,775	9,208
Less { spirits, brandy, gallons	- - - -	23,554	18,054
sugar, raw, cwts.	- - - -	5,524	4,437
tea, lbs.	- - - -	269,789	182,720
tobacco, lbs.	- - - -	88,915	84,474

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If the stocks in the hands of private holders be in anything like the same proportion, the imports in the present year (railway material excepted) should exceed those of 1875.

One of the recommendations of the conference was, that among the statistical returns of the Colonies there should be one showing the transhipments of goods. The quantities transhipped last year were, however, as I was informed by the Collector of Customs, so small that it was not deemed necessary to obtain a return of them.

The total value of the exports in 1875 was 1,085,976*l.*, against 925,325*l.* in the previous year, an increase of 160,651*l.*, or 17·36 per cent.

The rate per head of population in 1875 was 10*l.* 9*s.*, the highest in the 10 years.

Of the total value only 9,778*l.*, or 0·9 per cent., was that of British and foreign produce; the productions of the Colony were therefore in the proportion of 99·1 per cent.

In no year of the decennium were the exports so large. The average value in the last, as compared with the first five years, increased by 106,920*l.*, or 13·29 per cent.

The per-cent-age of exports to each Colony for the four years, 1867-70, and for the past year, was—

—	1867-70.	1875.
United Kingdom - - - -	43·90	47·03
Victoria - - - -	34·94	24·92
New South Wales - - - -	10·91	14·68
Queensland - - - -	1·73	1·97
South Australia - - - -	2·11	2·43
New Zealand - - - -	6·05	8·95

Here, as in the case of the imports, the proportion of commerce with the United Kingdom has largely increased, while that with our nearest neighbour, Victoria, has diminished. With New South Wales and New Zealand the proportion has nearly doubled.

The increases in the quantities and values of the principal articles of export in 1875 over those in 1874 are shown below:—

Articles.	In Quantities.	In Values.
Bark - - - -	1,636 tons	£ 18,419
Bran and pollard - - - -	104 tons, 450 bushels	531
Butter and cheese - - - -	87 cwt.	1,017
Flour - - - -	891 tons	7,821
Oats - - - -	164,691 bushels	12,559
Barley - - - -	18,625 ditto	4,058
Hops - - - -	Decrease	12,865
Hides, skins, and leather - - - -	255 cwt., 46 pkgs.	Decrease.
Live stock, sheep - - - -	Decrease.	2,539
Oatmeal - - - -	16 tons	883
Oil, sperm and black - - - -	60 tons	6,980

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Articles.	In Quantities.	In Values.
Timber - - - - -	1,490,473 pieces, 2,821,819 feet	£ 13,223
Tin, ore and smelted - - - - -	224 tons	24,007
Wool - - - - -	1,148,328 lbs.	82,837

It thus appears that 72,837*l.* of the whole increase, or about 51*½* per cent., was produced by wool alone, the quantities of which despatched in 1875 and 1874 were 6,199,248 lbs. and 5,050,920 lbs. respectively. The clip of 1873 and 1874, exported in 1874 and 1875, as far as can be ascertained by taking the quantities from December of one year to November of the following, was—1874, 6,220,123 lbs. ; 1873, 5,480,890 lbs. ; showing an excess in the former season of 739,233 lbs. The practice of shearing in the grease is stated to be extending, and this will account for a part of the increase.

It will be observed from the above statement, that while the quantities of hops and number of live stock were smaller in 1875, the value was greater. In hides and leather there was an increase in quantity, but a decrease in value. In skins (rabbit) there was a decrease in number of 41,064. The export of tin began, in the form of ore, in 1873, when it was only 4 tons ; in the following year it rose to 142 tons ; while in 1875 the quantity of smelted tin was 366*½* tons, the export of the metal in its natural state having been discontinued when the furnaces for reducing it came into operation.

On jam there was an increase of 203,818 lbs., but on green fruit a decrease of 20,538 bushels. On the aggregate value of both a decrease of 3,451*l.* ; other decreases were—on gold 869 ozs. ; on wheat, 55,914 bushels ; on hops, 51,701 lbs. ; on horses, 227 ; on sheep, 324.

In September 1875 an Exhibition of Colonial Products was held in Melbourne in connexion with the Exhibition at Philadelphia. From the Report of the Commissioners I extract the following notices of Tasmanian timber :—“ The import of sawn timber from Tasmania has almost entirely ceased since the imposition of protective duties. The shipments from that market are now confined almost entirely to palings, and to small consignments of the muskwood and the beautifully marked Huon-pine.” The Commissioners remark that “ the disfavour which undoubtedly attaches not only to Victorian, but to all Australian timber, is in a large measure owing to the fact that the timber is ‘so frequently felled at improper seasons, while the sap vessels are full.’ ”

The shipping returns have been put into a slightly different form, in order to comply with the recommendations of the conference, and to bring them, as far as possible, into agreement with those of the English Board of Trade. By this change sailing vessels have been distinguished from steamers.

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The total shipping for the last two years was as follows:—

	—	1874.	1875.
Inwards	Number of vessels	607	631
	Tonnage ditto	119,706	129,102
	Crews	7,254	7,669
Outwards	Number of vessels	620	664
	Tonnage ditto	119,801	133,107
	Crews	7,223	8,134

As regards the nationality of the shipping engaged in 1875, six vessels, of 2,892 tons, belonging to foreign (American) owners entered, and the same number cleared outwards; 21 vessels, of 9,293 tons, belonging to British owners, both entered and cleared; and 604 vessels, of 116,917 tons inwards, and 637, of 120,923 outwards, were owned in the Colonies.

The total shipping from and to all countries in 1874 and 1875 was—

	—	1874.	1875.
Number of vessels	- - - - -	1,227	1,295
Tonnage ditto	- - - - -	239,507	262,209
Crews	- - - - -	14,477	15,803

the increase being—on the number, 5.54 per cent.; on the tonnage, 9.48 per cent.

The vessels entered and cleared (including, of course, repeated voyages) in 1875, as divided into two classes, sailing and steam, were—

	—	Sailing.	Steam.
Number	- - - - -	1,000	295
Tonnage	- - - - -	158,649	103,560

The following figures show the aggregate tonnage of shipping inwards and outwards in the two years between Tasmania and the other countries mentioned:—

	—	1874.	1875.
United Kingdom	- - - - -	14,116	15,657
Victoria	- - - - -	118,285	124,561
New South Wales	- - - - -	41,624	50,713
Queensland	- - - - -	4,793	6,699
South Australia	- - - - -	13,749	16,748
New Zealand	- - - - -	33,783	38,500
Mauritius	- - - - -	2,738	1,679
Foreign	- - - - -	1,261	859
Whale	- - - - -	7,709	6,700

As regards the Mauritius, foreign countries, and the whale fisheries, there were decreases; in all other cases the differences were in favour of the latter year.

The increase of shipping in 1875 affected both Hobart Town and Launceston; but it did not extend to all the outports, as will be seen from the figures which follow:—

	—	1874.	1875.
Tonnage inwards	Stanley -	-	5,217
	Wynyard -	-	4,114
	Leith -	-	7,914
	Torquay -	-	1,433
Tonnage outwards	Stanley -	-	4,308
	Wynyard -	-	4,277
	Leith -	-	8,029
	Torquay -	-	2,081

There were on the register on the 31st December 1875, 187 vessels, of 18,317 tons; on the corresponding day of the previous year there were 180 vessels, of 17,744 tons. Of these in 1874, 10, of 3,135 tons, and in 1875, 9, of 2,773 tons, were steamers.

The tonnage of Tasmanian built vessels sold in 1875 seems to have been considerably in excess of that in the previous year, although the value is returned as somewhat less. The figures for both years were—

	—	1874.	1875.
Number of vessels	-	-	-
Tonnage ditto	-	-	-
Value	-	-	-

In the whale fisheries in 1875 were employed 13 vessels, with a tonnage of 3,525, manned by 315 persons. Of these vessels, 6 returned to port during the year, bringing 138 tuns of sperm oil, valued at 12,465*l.* In 1866 the number of vessels employed was 9. It increased in the three following years to 10, 16, and 17 respectively, declined to 15 in 1870, rose to 19 in the next year, again declined to 18 in 1873, and fell to 16 in 1874. The value of produce brought into port in 1875 was smaller than in any other year of the decennium, the next lowest having been 22,800*l.* in 1867, and the greatest, 52,546*l.* in 1868.

On comparing the market prices at Hobart Town in 1875 with those of the previous year, we find that bacon, butter, cheese, coffee, eggs, firewood, butchers' meat, and sugar were dearer, while flour, wheat, oats, and hay were cheaper. The contract price of butter, coffee, currants, eggs, oatmeal, oil (black), raisins, tobacco, vinegar, rum, was higher; that of tea (Congou), bread, and butchers' meat lower.

One of the most important indications of the industrial condition of a country is the number of its principal trades and manu-

TASMANIA. factories. A comparison of the figures for 1875 with those for the previous years in the decennium will best show whether we have progressed or receded in this respect.

Agricultural implement makers increased from 1866 to 1870, when they were returned as 60, and from that time decreased to 46 last year. This is only the natural consequence of the tendency to abandon cultivation in favour of pastoral pursuits, the latter being, under the circumstances, much more profitable than the former. Blacksmiths and wheelwrights have increased, the average of both, taken together for the first five years, having been 246, and in the last five 259 respectively. In these two periods, relatively to population, there were 1 in 402, and later 1 in 397. Bakers have increased from an average of 89 to 106 per annum, notwithstanding that flour mills have decreased from 78 to 71, the number in 1875 being returned as 65, against 81 in 1866. Butchers have also diminished in numbers, the averages for the two periods being 198 and 190 respectively. Cheesemakers were most numerous in 1870 (when they were first returned) and 1871, but have progressively increased since 1872. Market gardeners have multiplied from 47 in 1870 (before which time they were not noticed) to 104 in 1875. Jam manufactories, also, were first included in 1870, when they were stated to be 18 in number; in the three last years they were returned as 7 only. The exports, however, show that if the manufactories are fewer, the produce is nevertheless greater. The pastrycooks, like the bakers, have increased from an average of 25 to 27. The publicans, on an average, in the last five years were 403; in the first, 434; in 1848 they numbered 376; in 1850, 358; in 1852, 379; in 1866, 439; in 1870, 443; in 1871, 418. In 1848 there was one publican to every 187 persons; in 1852, one to every 167; in the five years, 1866-70, one to every 230; and in the succeeding five years, one to every 255; the proportion in 1875 being one to 269. If we take four fifths of the males of 15 and upwards, and two thirds of the females, as the number of persons who were consumers of intoxicating liquors, there would have been in 1875 one public-house to every 114 such persons, the actual number of public-houses in that year being 387. The breweries and malting kilns diminished from 51 in 1866 to 31 in 1871, and increased to 37 in 1875. Of trades connected with building the average numbers in the two periods were—

	1866-70.	1871-5.
Bricklayers - - - - -	79	74
Builders - - - - -	58	61
Carpenters, joiners, and cabinetmakers - - - - -	192	202
Stonemasons - - - - -	54	61
	383	398

Of coopers, as between 1874 and 1875, there were, as might be expected, fewer, there being less demand for casks for whaling

purposes. Engineers increased from 16 to 21, fellmongers from 64 to 78, tanners from 52 to 54, ironmongers from 15 to 21, saw mills from 21 to 27, shipwrights and boat builders from 28 to 38, tailors from 67 to 71, grocers and general dealers from 362 to 439. There were decreases of painters, plumbers, and glaziers from 38 to 35, of printing offices from 15 to 12. From 1870, when they were first returned, there were decreases in the following:— hawkers from 106 in that year to 88 in 1875; plasterers from 51 to 43.

It may be observed, though perhaps it is hardly necessary to do so, that the numbers exhibited in the returns under consideration are not those of all persons engaged in these callings, but only of masters, or persons working on their own account.

The collector of statistics for Oatlands district explains that the decrease in the number of industries there was occasioned by the departure of persons who carried on business temporarily during the construction of the Main Line Railway, and the same explanation doubtless applies in some degreee to other districts near the line.

The return relating to gold mining shows that in that industry an average of 101 persons were employed through the year, against 185 in 1874, and that the approximate value of mining plant was 15,660*l.*, being 5,395*l.* more than in 1874. Alluvial mining employed 26 persons on an average, and produced 270 ozs. of gold of the value of 1,080*l.*, at 4*l.* per oz. Quartz mining employed 75 persons, and produced 2,740 ozs. 8 dwts. of gold from 3,889 tons of quartz, the value of the gold being 10,902*l.*, at 3*l.* 19*s.* 6*d.* per oz., and the average yield per ton 14 dwts. 2 grs.

Alluvial operations will probably never be carried on to any extent in this Colony, and it is therefore not a matter of surprise that they should have declined. As to quartz mining, however, there is no reason to doubt that it may yet become a steady and profitable pursuit. I therefore give below the principal facts connected with it, as shown in the returns for the past five years; also the total yield from both sources.

Years.	Quartz Mining.				Total Quantity of Gold produced.	Total Value of same.
	Tons crushed.	Gold produced.	Value.	Average per Ton.		
1871	4,045	ozs. dwts. 1,985 10	£ 7,699	oz. dwt. gr. 0 8 2	ozs. dwts. 6,005 0	£ 23,467
1872	6,008	3,174 0	12,215	0, 8 14	6,969 0	27,314
1873	4,184	3,131 0	12,370	0 14 17	4,661 0	18,390
1874	3,452 $\frac{1}{2}$	3,800 14	15,116	1 5 8 $\frac{1}{2}$	4,650 14	18,491
1875	3,889	2,740 8	10,902	0 14 2	3,010 8	11,982
	21,578 $\frac{1}{2}$	14,831 12	58,302	0 14 4	25,296 2	99,644

The yield in the last year was less than in the three previous years, but there is reason to believe that the very promising

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results which have been obtained at the Nine Mile Springs since the beginning of the present year will recall attention to mines which have been abandoned or left unworked. I find from the report of the directors that the quantity of gold obtained from the New Native Youth Company's claims at the Nine Mile Springs during the last half year was 3,133 ozs., valued at 12,745*l.*, from 1,790 tons of quartz, the average yield per ton of quartz being about 1 oz. 15 dwts. The City of Hobart Mine at Mangana has produced an ounce and a quarter to the ton from 202 tons of stone. Among other noticeable yields at Nine Mile Springs which have been reported from time to time during the current year was one of 1,470 ozs., valued at 6,060*l.*, from 516 tons of quartz, which gives an average of nearly 2 ozs. 17 dwts. per ton.

The produce of the mines and quarries in 1875 differed very largely from that of the previous year. On coal there was a decrease of 1,557 tons, or nearly 17 per cent. Port Sorell was the only district in which the quantity raised was greater, but that was only to the extent of a few tons. On stone there was a large decrease; also on slate, in consequence of the companies having broken down, whether from mismanagement or want of capital I know not. That the failure was due to one or both of these causes is evident, the slates having been reported as of excellent quality, abundant in quantity, and the demand in the Colonies being quite sufficient to make the manufacture a profitable one. Of iron ore, 3,200 tons were raised, as against 1,400 in the previous year. On the 17th June in the present year the extensive works of the "Tasmanian Charcoal Iron Company" were formally inaugurated by his Excellency the Governor; and since the Company has secured the aid of English skill and capital, the question whether iron can be profitably manufactured in this Colony will soon be solved. During the year 510 tons of manufactured iron and 6 tons of ore were exported. The increased production of iron necessarily involved an increase in that of lime from 7,612 to 10,698 bushels, and of limestone from 445 to 1,000 tons. Of tin ore, the quantity raised at Mount Bischoff was returned as 490 tons in the two last years;* but as to the northern or north-eastern districts it has not been possible to obtain any corresponding particulars, the miners being scattered over a large extent of country, and no machinery being available for the purpose of collecting such information. The quantity of ore and metal will, according to all appearance, be greatly augmented during the present year.

I learn from a report on the tin mines at Mount Bischoff, with which the visiting magistrate for that district was kind enough to furnish me in March last, that the tramway to connect the mines with a shipping place at Emu Bay, which is in course of construction by the Van Diemen's Land Company, was then so far

* This appears to be less than the true quantity; see next page.

advanced that some seven or eight miles were ready for the laying down of the sleepers and rails; that the horse track between Wynyard and Mount Bischoff had been opened, partly by private subscription and partly at the expense of the Government, the only impediment to horse traffic being the crossing of the river Hellyer, over which, however, it was in contemplation to construct a temporary bridge; and that the works had been delayed by the difficulty experienced in obtaining labour, about 220 men being employed on them. Smelting furnaces had been erected by one company on the spot, and the results are stated to have been "most satisfactory." The fuel used was wood, of which there is an "almost inexhaustible supply covering every section."

It is also stated that on 31st December 1875 there were 183 men at these mines, besides several women and children. The quantity of ore raised during the year, as returned by the various companies, was 607 tons; of ore smelted in Launceston, 534 tons, producing nearly 323 tons, 60 per cent., of ingot tin. The value of the buildings and plant at Mount Bischoff was set down at 6,400*l.*; about 5,000*l.* had been spent in construction of tramways at the mount, beside 4,334*l.* on repairs to the road from thence to Emu Bay. The cost of cartage is reported to have been 8*l.* up and 6*l.* down, as much as 20*l.* having been paid during the bad weather for conveying rations by pack horses.

IV.—*Finance.*

I have always felt that the form in which the returns relating to the public revenue and expenditure were presented was quite unsuited for statistical purposes. It is easier, however, to point out faults than to suggest remedies. The subject was one of those which came under the consideration of the Statistical Conference, who recommended a form of return, founded upon that in use in South Australia, which has been followed on the present occasion as far as the circumstances of our Colony admit. The following general principles were laid down by the Conference:—1. "That the returns of general revenue should exclude the amounts raised by loan." 2. That those of general expenditure "should exclude the expenditure of moneys raised on loan, but should include the interest and repayment" (as distinguished from the renewal) "of loans." These have been observed in drawing up the present returns.

I am inclined to think that the system of classification of the expenditure as it now stands may admit of further improvements. But there is one particular in which a change, if the returns are to be of much value for purposes of comparison, is absolutely needed; namely, the items "Civil List" and "Civil Establishment." The "Civil List" in South Australia seems to include the Governor, the judges, the Attorney General and Crown Solicitor, the Chief Secretary, the Under Secretary, the Treasurer, Commissioners of Crown Lands and Immigration, and of Public Works, and the Auditor General; but the term will probably be variously

TASMANIA. interpreted in the different Colonies. The South Australian practice has been followed, as far as possible, in our present returns. With regard to the "Civil Establishment," I find, on reference to the "Colonial Office List," that the meaning attached to the words is purely arbitrary. In some Colonies, as, for example, Canada and Ceylon, it is confined to the Governor's establishment; at the Cape of Good Hope it includes also the clerk of the Executive Council; at the Bahamas it *excludes* the Governor and his staff; in Tobago it consists of the Lieutenant-Governor, the Colonial Secretary, the Treasurer and revenue officers, superintendent of lighthouses and pilot, and the post-master; and so on. Such a classification is therefore so far useless for the purpose of comparison; and before another year elapses, I hope it may be possible to agree upon some scheme that may avoid the indefiniteness of these terms. The decennial returns of revenue and expenditure, even with their present imperfections, will, I believe, be found extremely valuable, as showing at a glance, in a convenient form, particulars which have hitherto been scattered about in separate volumes of statistics or in parliamentary papers.

Taking a survey of the revenue for the past 10 years, we find that the total increased from 253,047*l.* (omitting fractions) in 1866, to 343,676*l.*, or about 36 per cent. From 1870 inclusive the increase has been continuous. The smallest sum reached in the period was in 1867, when the revenue was only 251,891*l.* It should be remarked that the Launceston and Western Railway rate, which in 1873 added 27,000*l.* to the revenue, in 1875 was reduced to 10,558*l.*, so that the increase from other sources since that year was really greater than it appears. The customs rose from 129,311*l.* in 1866, to 181,328*l.* in 1875; these in 1875 formed 52·76 per cent. of the total revenue. Deducting from the revenue of this year such sources as did not exist in 1866, the proportion would be 59·04 per cent., while in 1866 it was 51·10. Publicans' licenses in 1866 furnished 12,035*l.*, or 4·76 per cent., in 1875, 9,776*l.*, or 3·18 per cent. of the total, diminished as before; stamps (post office and others) in 1866, 16,508*l.*, or 6·52 per cent., in 1875, 24,132*l.*, or 7·85 per cent.; sales of Crown lands, in 1866, 53,067*l.*, or 20·97 per cent., in 1875, 33,643, or 10·95 per cent.; rent of Crown lands (pastoral and mineral), in 1866, 9,200*l.*, or 3·63 per cent., in 1875, 10,922*l.*, or 3·56 per cent.

The total expenditure, according to the principles above indicated, in 1875 was 385,731*l.* (subject, as is the case also with the revenue for that year, to correction on account of sums estimated, but not yet paid), including a sum of 52,000*l.** for repayment of Treasury bills. If this sum were excluded on the ground that no similar actual repayment of loans had taken place in the previous years, the expenditure of 1875 would exceed that of 1874 by only 8,536*l.*, the increase being found chiefly under the

* 1,000*l.* paid off at the end of 1874 being charged to 1875.

heads "Public Instruction, Science, &c.," "Charitable Institutions," "Public Works," and "Miscellaneous," which includes a sum of 5,992*l.* 10*s.* 7*d.* for repairs, furniture, &c. for Government House.

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The total expenditure of 1875 (omitting loans repaid), compared with that of 1866, increased by 57,068*l.* or 20·63 per cent. The charge for interest on the public debt in 1875 was 87,226*l.*, or 26·14 per cent. of such total expenditure, being at the rate of 16*s.* 9*½d.* per head of the mean population. The disbursements for the first and last years of the decennium may be thus compared:—

—	1866.	1875.
Civil list	£ 15,424	£ 11,376
Legislature	1,503	1,114
Law and crime:—		
Judicial and legal	10,918	7,633
Police	18,166	18,245
Gaols and penal establishments	25,784	18,609
Charitable institutions	39,467	41,214
Government departments:—		
Civil establishment	12,193	11,063
Customs	7,688	5,182
Post office and telegraphs	17,382	26,884
Lands and works	27,573	16,299
Ecclesiastical	16,219	7,411
Public instruction, science, &c.	15,704	18,026
Pensions and compensations	12,212	16,240
Interest on loans	27,515	87,226
Aid to road trusts and municipalities	20,028	11,379
Miscellaneous (including defences) -	8,887	15,915
	276,663	308,816
Railways	—	18,796
Mines	—	394
Repayment of loans	—	52,000
Estimated outstanding liabilities	—	2,500
Seab Act fund	—	3,925
	276,663	385,731

The increases occur only under the heads of "Charitable Institutions," "Post Office and Telegraphs," "Public Instruction, &c.," "Pensions and Compensations," "Interest on Loans," and "Miscellaneous." On all the remaining items of expenditure common to both years, taken collectively, there was a decrease of 52,185*l.*

It will be observed that, with the exception of 52,000*l.* for repayment of loans, the only expenditure found in 1875 which did not occur in 1866 was for objects of a reproductive nature, namely, railways, mines, and eradication of scab in sheep.

In compliance with the recommendations of the conference, two returns, containing very important information, have been included in the present volume. The one shows the receipts and expenditure for general and local purposes for 1875, which were—

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—	—	Receipts.	Expenditure.
General	-	£ 843,676	£ 385,731*
Local	-	90,163	85,661
		438,839	471,392

The other shows the taxation, as far as it can be ascertained, under the same heads. The amounts were—

General	-	-	-	-	£ 212,336
Local	-	-	-	-	70,495
					£282,831

The rate per head being—general, 2*l.* 0*s.* 10*1/4d.*; local, 13*s.* 6*3/4d.*; total taxation, 2*l.* 14*s.* 5*d.*

The imperial expenditure was 14,144*l.* 19*s.* 1*d.*, differing very slightly from that of the previous year.

The return relating to exchange shows that the rates charged for bank bills on London were higher in 1875 than in the year before, for while in 1874 such bills were selling at par at the closing of the first five monthly mails, at $\frac{1}{8}$ per cent. premium at the next five, and at $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. premium at the remaining three, in 1875 the premium for the first was $\frac{1}{2}$, for the next three $\frac{3}{4}$, and for the remainder of the year, 1 per cent. The bank rate for the purchase of merchants' bills on London was in 1875, at January mail, $\frac{1}{8}$ per cent. discount; at the next three mails, at par; at the succeeding six, at $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. discount; and at the last three, $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. discount. In 1874 it was at $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. discount up to October, and $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. discount for the other three months. The exchange with the Australian Colonies continued the same as before. The rates of discount for bills up to 30th April continued the same as in the last quarter of the preceding year; from 1st May they were 1 per cent. higher. The interest allowed by the banks on fixed deposits remained as before, namely, from 3 to 5 per cent.

In the following statement the transactions of the banks in the last two years are compared:—

—	Assets.			Liabilities.	
	Specie and Bullion.	Balances due from other Banks.	Debts due to Banks.	Notes in Circulation.	Deposits.
1875.	£	£	£	£	£
1st quarter -	246,812	96,168	1,192,395	111,486	1,233,763
2nd quarter -	242,330	97,372	1,175,542	113,209	1,268,509
3rd quarter -	242,856	55,217	1,188,015	104,402	1,267,347
4th quarter -	243,459	14,921	1,245,215	105,236	1,277,585
Mean -	244,364	65,919	1,200,292	108,583	1,261,801

* Of which 52,000*l.* was for repayment of loans.

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	Assets.			Liabilities.	
	Specie and Bullion.	Balances due from other Banks.	Debts due to Banks.	Notes in Circulation.	Deposits.
1874.					
1st quarter -	253,696	86,393	1,040,983	111,856	967,852
2nd quarter -	248,816	94,708	1,105,728	116,848	1,059,787
3rd quarter -	240,315	50,331	1,165,739	109,032	1,075,092
4th quarter -	239,134	43,864	1,197,752	107,487	1,106,101
Mean -	245,490	68,824	1,127,549	111,306	1,052,195

The increases on the mean amounts per cent. were—on debts due to the banks, 6·45; on notes in circulation, 11·85; on deposits, 19·92. On the balances due from other banks, and on the notes in circulation, there were decreases, the rates per cent. being 4·22 and 2·45 respectively; and on the specie and bullion there was also a decrease to the extent of 1,126*l.*, or 0·46 per cent. According to the customs returns, the imports of coin and bullion in 1875 were of the value of 1,250*l.*; the exports amounting to 14,021*l.* In the previous year the increases per cent. were—on debts due to banks, 21·15; on notes in circulation, 14·62; on deposits, 22·70. The decrease on specie and bullion was 1·42 per cent.

Comparing the first and last years of the decennium, it appears that the increases were as follows:—

Assets.	Per Cent.	Liabilities.	Per Cent.
On specie and bullion -	48·39	On notes -	38·46
Debts due to banks -	18·16	Deposits -	103·60
Total assets -	23·19	Total liabilities -	94·60

The deposits, it will be observed, have more than doubled. The accumulation of specie, it will also be seen, has proceeded more rapidly than the increase of paper currency.

The savings banks had at interest on the 29th February 1876, 257,258*l.*; 136,812*l.* being invested in debentures, and 120,446*l.* on mortgage. They had also cash in other banks to the amount of 53,821*l.* Their deposits were 289,223*l.*, and their reserve fund, 26,757*l.* During the two half years ended August 31, 1875, and February 29, 1876, they received from depositors 160,485*l.*, and repaid them 146,620*l.* As compared with the previous year, there was a satisfactory increase. The average amount to the credit of each depositor on February 29, 1876, was 25*l.* 16*s.* 1*d.* At Hobart Town it was 31*l.* 1*s.* 4*d.*, and at Launceston 18*l.* 1*s.* 5*d.*

The number of actual accounts open on the last-named day was 11,208, of which 6,350 were for sums under 10*l.*, 2,911 for sums between 10*l.* and 50*l.*, 1,010 for sums between 50*l.* and 100*l.*,

TASMANIA. and 937 for sums above 100*l.* The number of accounts was not shown in the statistics before 1873; but since that year it has increased on the whole by 25·41 per cent. During the last half year 937 accounts were opened, and 573 closed.

During the 10 years the amount standing to credit of depositors increased by 49·95 per cent. At Hobart Town the increase was at the rate of 54·62 per cent., at Launceston 39·30.

The number of money orders issued by the post office in 1875 was 7,569, being 438 in excess of those in 1874. The amount was 28,115*l.* (omitting fractions), being 1,052*l.* in excess. The number paid was 6,179, the excess being 271; the amount 22,118*l.*, which was 449*l.* less than in the previous year.

It may be useful to place in juxtaposition the number and amount of orders issued and paid in 1875, as showing to some extent how the tide of commerce set.

Countries.	Number		Amount of those	
	Issued.	Paid.	Issued.	Paid.
Tasmania -	3,376	3,364	11,227	10,355
New South Wales -	393	522	1,762	2,432
New Zealand -	182	568	888	2,705
Queensland -	68	107	68	496
South Australia -	78	130	308	528
United Kingdom -	1,206	234	4,330	1,036
Victoria -	2,254	1,247	9,454	4,624
Western Australia -	12	7	78	42

I have always been dissatisfied with the forms in which the return of the public debt of the Colony has been presented, but have not hitherto been able to make as much improvement as I wished. In the shape in which it now appears for the first time however, it will, I believe, afford every information which can reasonably be looked for in the general statistics of the Colony. It is here shown that the original amount of outstanding loans authorised was 1,660,500*l.* of which, up to 1st January 1875, 58,300*l.* had not been negotiated, and 96,500*l.* had been repaid, making the actual indebtedness of Tasmania on that day 1,505,700*l.* During the year 34,700*l.* were borrowed for public works and interest on the Main Line Railway during construction, and Treasury bills to the amount of 51,000*l.* were paid off; the debt on 31st December being therefore 1,489,400*l.* of which 1,134,100*l.* bore interest at 6 per cent., and 355,300*l.* at 5 per cent. The charge for interest during the year, and the rate per head of population, have already been stated.

The debt on 31st December last, distributed over the whole mean population of the Colony in the year, amounted to 14*l.* 6*s.* 7*½d.* per head. It amounted to 4*½* years' revenue. If the whole of the land in the Colony be regarded as security for its payment, the liability would be 1*s.* 9*½d.* per acre, if the unalienated land 2*s.* 4*d.* In the other Australasian Colonies in 1874, according to the com-

parative tables published by the Victorian Government, the proportion of the public debt to the revenue appears to have been—Victoria, about $3\frac{1}{2}$ (3.41) times; New South Wales, nearly 3 times (2.996); Queensland, about $4\frac{1}{2}$ (4.52); South Australian, nearly 3 (2.98); Western Australia, under 1 (0.8); New Zealand (1873), nearly 4 (3.93).

Of the original amount of loans authorised, 474,629*l.* were for public works, 200,000*l.* for immigration, 460,000*l.* for the Launceston and Western Railway, 91,000*l.* for interest on Main Line Railway during construction, 100,000*l.* to commute State aid to religion, 30,500*l.* for debt to Imperial Government, 252,371*l.* (of which 95,500*l.* have been repaid) for deficiencies of revenue up to 1867, and 52,000*l.* (the whole of which has been repaid) for late deficiencies in the land revenue.

Those who may compare the decennial return of the public debt with the figures given in my previous reports will find some discrepancies. The return, having been subjected to the careful revision of the Assistant Colonial Treasurer, may be presumed to be now correct, and the figures, where they differ, should be substituted for the others. While the old form was retained, it was exceedingly difficult to ascertain the amount actually outstanding with absolute accuracy.

V.—Establishments maintained or assisted by Government.

The return relating to the post office has been put into a different form, so as to show the number of letters, &c. more correctly than was shown by the form previously in use, and also the better to admit of comparison with the statistics of the other Colonies.

The number of distinct letters which passed through the different post offices in 1875 was as follows:—

Inland	-	-	-	-	1,190,080
Ship	{ Received	-	-	-	262,468
	{ Despatched	-	-	-	242,708

Making a total of 1,695,256.

The packets were—

Inland	-	-	-	-	36,815
Ship	{ Received	-	-	-	28,635
	{ Despatched	-	-	-	6,548

Or together 71,998.

Of newspapers there were—

Inland	-	-	-	-	872,570
Ship	{ Received	-	-	-	249,891
	{ Despatched	-	-	-	228,979

Making in all 1,351,440.

TASMANIA. — As compared with the numbers in the previous year, there was an increase on the letters of 9·88 per cent., on the packets of 37·84 per cent., and on the newspapers of 11·86 per cent.

The number of post offices and receiving houses in 1875 was 170; of persons employed, 203; giving an increase, as compared with 1874, in the former of 7, and in the latter of 17. The number of miles of post roads was 1,293, the mileage travelled by mail conveyances being 436,536.

It is unfortunately impossible to ascertain exactly what the revenue of the post office was, in consequence of the provision in the Stamp Act, which permits the use of post office stamps for the purposes of that Act. The inconvenience of this arrangement in a statistical point of view is felt also when we endeavour to ascertain the amount of taxation, since it prevents us from arriving at the amount produced by the Stamp Act. The effect is further disadvantageous as regards the revenue, since, if the amount collected by way of duty were accurately known and could be compared from year to year, it would be more easy to discover and check any attempt to evade the provisions of the Stamp Act.

The receipts of the post office in 1875 are estimated by the department to have amounted to 13,500*l.*, or 800*l.* more than in 1874, while the expenditure remained the same.

The returns relating to the Government telegraphs have been recast, and in their present form do not include as revenue any sums but such as were actually received and placed to the credit of this Government. The estimated value of unpaid messages, which in former years was inserted, has therefore in the present case been omitted.

The number of stations increased from 23 in 1874 to 32 in 1875; of employés, from 28 to 35; of miles of line, from 257 to 396; and of miles of single wire, from 286 to 468.

The number of messages transmitted in the last two years was—

—	1874.	1875.
Paid { within the Colony - - -	19,894	25,017
beyond the Colony - - -	10,407	11,087
Unpaid { on public service - - -	7,789	8,522
shipping messages, &c. (estimated)	4,000	5,000
	42,090	49,626

The revenue derived from the telegraphs in 1875 was 2,244*l.* 5*s.* 1*d.*, and the expenditure on the Government lines was 2,677*l.* 4*s.* 3*d.*, beside which, 4,200*l.* was paid to the Submarine Cable Company on account of the cable across the Straits, making the total expenditure for telegraphic services 6,877*l.* 4*s.* 3*d.*

The total number of passengers who travelled by the Launceston and Western Railway in 1875 was 92,122, against 91,264 in

the previous year; the number of miles travelled being 1,615,119, against 1,612,172. The average miles per passenger were 17.53 (slightly less than in 1874); average passengers per train in the last four years, 39.6, 44.01, 48.14, and 48.92 respectively; average passengers per mile, 0.88, 0.99, 1.07, and 1.08 for the same years. The receipts from passengers increased year by year, being in 1875, 9,132*l.*, or 47.29 per cent. in excess of those in 1872; the increase in the number being 44.73 per cent. During the same period the average receipts per passenger per train mile increased from 1*s.* 8.56*d.* to 2*s.* 1.59*d.*; per train, from 3*l.* 17*s.* 2*d.* to 4*l.* 16*s.* 11.95*d.*; and per week, from 133*l.* 16*s.* 2*d.* to 175*l.* 12*s.* 4*d.*

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The goods traffic increased in the same time from 18,111 to 25,837 tons (42.66 per cent.); the receipts from 5,646*l.* to 8,370*l.* or 48.24 per cent. Other increases were—in train mileage, from 72,300 to 86,994; in ton miles, from 476,607 to 747,176; in average load per train, from 11.3 to 13.61 tons; in average miles travelled per ton, from 26.31 to 29.69; in average receipts per train mile, from 1*s.* 6.74*d.* to 1*s.* 11.09*d.*; per ton, from 6*s.* 2.82*d.* to 6*s.* 5.75*d.*; per train, from 3*l.* 10*s.* 3*d.* to 4*l.* 8*s.* 2*d.*; and per week, from 122*l.* 14*s.* 8*d.* to 160*l.* 19*s.* 4*d.*

The total revenue of the railway from all sources in 1875 was 19,435*l.* 13*s.* 2*d.*, or 1,110*l.* 8*s.* 4*d.* more than in 1874; the average per train mile being 4*s.* 4.14*d.* in 1875, and 3*s.* 10.7*d.* in 1874. The working expenses (of which 962*l.* 12*s.* 10*d.* were disbursements of an extraordinary character) were in 1875, 16,213*l.* 1*s.*, leaving a balance of receipts over working expenses of 3,222*l.*, against 1,939*l.* 0*s.* 9*d.* in the previous year. The working expenses in 1875 per mile open were 360*l.* 6*s.*, and per train mile, 3*s.* 8*d.*

The marine boards had an income of 13,273*l.* 6*s.* 5*d.*, and an expenditure of 10,974*l.* 12*s.*, with a balance of 3,175*l.* 3*s.* 2*d.* to be carried to the current year. On the receipts there was an increase of 1,020*l.* 18*s.*

The returns relating to establishments maintained or assisted by the Government have been entirely remodelled, in accordance with the suggestions of the conference; many particulars not hitherto given are now for the first time supplied; all the returns for each class have been reduced into one general return, grouped together according to their nature; and the total for each group is separately shown, so that whatever information is desired, whether as to an individual establishment, or as to the group to which it belongs, can be at once discovered by a glance at the proper table.

The groups consist of—1 Charitable establishments, comprising (a.) General hospitals; (b.) Hospitals for the insane; (c.) Pauper establishments; (d.) Queen's Asylum for Destitute Children 2. Gaols and other penal establishments (including children of mothers under punishment), and the reformatory.

The two general hospitals had 19 wards or rooms, of an aggregate capacity of 265,650 cubic feet, and beds for 184 patients, giving

TASMANIA. a space of 1,444 cubic feet for each bed. The average daily number of patients throughout the year (omitting fractions) was 139, of whom 97 were males and 42 females. The proportion chargeable to the Imperial Government was less than one.

The pauper establishments contained 64 wards or rooms, with a capacity of 603,596 cubic feet, and had 906 beds within their walls, allowing 666 feet for each bed. At the Brickfields the space for each bed was 500 feet; at the Cascades 623; at New Town 1,148; at Launceston 617; at Port Arthur 787. The average daily number was—males 712, females 134; total 846, of whom nearly 120 were chargeable to the Imperial Government.

The Queen's Asylum had 14 wards or rooms, containing 207,392 cubic feet of space, and had beds for 203 children, each having therefore $1,021\frac{1}{2}$ cubic feet of space. The daily average of male children was 101; of female, 91; of both, 192. Only 8 of these children were chargeable to the Home Government.

The accommodation in the gaols and other similar institutions was as shown in the table which follows:—

—	No. of Wards or Cells.	Aggregate Capacity, Cubic Feet.	Average Number of Occupants.	Cubic Space for each Occupant.
Gaol for males, Campbell Street - - -	101	178,482	156	1,144
Gaol for males, Cascades -	56	25,480	29	879
Gaol for females, Cascades	74	47,445	54	879
Gaol, Launceston - -	94	96,564	123	785
Port Arthur, prisons -	195	98,800	83	1,190
Reformatory, Cascades -	28	12,320	27	456

In the aggregate there were 548 wards or cells, with a capacity of 459,091 cubic feet, tenanted by 472 persons, each occupant having therefore, on an average, 973 feet of space. In the cases of the gaols at Launceston and the reformatory the space was exceedingly limited.

The hospitals for the insane contained 143 wards or rooms, and had 372 beds. The capacity is not given for the asylum at New Norfolk, but at Port Arthur there were 1,615 cubic feet of space for each bed, the daily average number of patients in the year being only 87. The daily average of patients maintained by Government in both hospitals was 322, of whom 200 were males and 122 females.

The ages of all persons in the establishments before mentioned, and the education of the greater part of them, have, as far as possible, been shown in the present returns.

The ages are specified below :—

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—	In General Hospitals.	Insane.	Paupers.	In Gaols, &c.	In Reformatory.
Under 10	47	2	—	113	5
10 and under 15	76	7	1	67	43
15	25	344	27	375	23
25	35	128	47	194	—
35	45	157	66	349	—
45	55	283	124	500	—
55	65	267	80	432	—
65 and upwards	249	48	970	188	—

The degree of education, not having been hitherto required, could be given for a part of the establishments only. The following table shows the proportions per cent. of the whole number in these establishments, from which the Queen's Asylum, where all the children of suitable age receive instruction, is excluded :—

—	Unable to Read.	Could Read only.	Could Read and Write.	Of Superior Education.
PAUPERS.				
Brickfields, males	33·40	11·79	54·81	—
New Town, females	34·86	45·64	17·43	2·07
Port Arthur, males	18·33	33·33	53·33	—
GAOLS.				
Campbell Street, males	32·85	12·30	54·41	0·44
Port Arthur, males	16·67	20·83	62·50	—

Of an average daily number of 472 prisoners, 367 were employed, and 83 were not employed. The employments were—hard labour in prison, 128 ; hard labour outside prison, 158 ; others, 81.

The punishments inflicted in the prisons were—irons, 3 ; solitary confinement, 162 ; others, 105.

Returns of previous convictions were furnished by three of the prisons. From these it appears that out of a total of 1,358 criminals who were under coercion not for the first time, 300 had been convicted once before, 524 twice, and 534 three or more times.

The gross cost of all the above-mentioned establishments was 46,735*l.* 10*s.* 4*d.*, which was diminished by 7,321*l.* 12*s.* 0*d.* received in cash from labour of inmates, fees from self-supporting patients in hospitals, sale of produce, &c. (not including value of work done for the establishments themselves), making the net expenditure from the Treasury 39,413*l.* 18*s.* 4*d.*, of which 33,008*l.* 5*s.* 0*½d.* were chargeable to the Colonial, and 6,405*l.* 13*s.* 3*½d.* to the Imperial Government. The average cost per head has been shown for the first time on both the gross

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—	Gross.	Net.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
General hospitals - - - -	50 5 3 $\frac{1}{2}$	49 15 11
Hospitals for insane - - - -	28 6 9 $\frac{1}{2}$	28 8 4 $\frac{1}{2}$
Pauper establishments - - - -	13 8 8 $\frac{1}{2}$	12 17 10
Queen's Asylum* - - - -	15 17 5 $\frac{1}{2}$	15 11 1 $\frac{1}{2}$
Reformatory - - - -	17 10 11 $\frac{1}{2}$	9 12 6 $\frac{1}{2}$
Gaols and penal establishments - - - -	31 17 2 $\frac{1}{2}$	22 12 6 $\frac{1}{2}$

The gross expenditure on salaries and allowances was 15,199*l.* 14*s.* 5*d.*; on provisions, stores, and other necessaries 31,535*l.* 15*s.* 11*d.*; the salaries and allowances being in the proportion of 32.52 per cent. of the whole cost.

Beside the expenditure on charitable establishments directly maintained by the Government, the sum of 7,979*l.* 7*s.* 6*d.* was disbursed for outdoor relief of indigent persons, and 1,539*l.* 0*s.* 8*d.* for support of children boarded out.

With the present year all charges on account of the aboriginal inhabitants of the Colony will cease, the last of the race having died but a short time since.

The establishments assisted by the Government have been classed as charitable, educational, and scientific; the charitable comprising the hospital at Campbell Town, the Boys' Home, the Girls' Industrial School at Hobart Town, and the benevolent societies at Hobart Town and Launceston had a total revenue (including 1,088*l.* 19*s.* 10*d.* brought from the previous year) of 4,745*l.* 12*s.* 8*d.*, of which 1,343*l.* 12*s.* 4*d.* were raised by private subscriptions, and 1,774*l.* 4*s.* 2*d.* were contributed by the State, the private subscriptions being in the proportion of 75.73 per cent. of the Government grant. The total expenditure was 3,618*l.* 3*s.* 10*d.*, and the balance to the next year 877*l.* 8*s.* 10*d.*, exclusive of a sum of 250*l.* put out at interest. The only educational institutions coming under this head are the ragged schools, which had a revenue of 908*l.* 8*s.* 10*d.*, of which 703*l.* 8*s.* 6*d.* were derived from the Treasury, and 205*l.* 0*s.* 4*d.*, or 29.14 per cent., of the former from private subscriptions, the expenditure being 919*l.* 18*s.* 6*d.* The Royal Society, the sole scientific institution assisted by the State, had an income of 884*l.* 6*s.*, made up of 600*l.* from the Treasury, 153*l.* from members' subscriptions, and the remainder from miscellaneous sources, the subscriptions being 25.50 per cent. of the Government grant, and an expenditure of 932*l.* 2*s.* 10*d.*

The road trusts in 1875 numbered 67, and had 3,481 miles of

* Cost of farm attached to the asylum not included, nor value of produce raised, excepting where it was actually sold.

road under their control ; their aggregate receipts were 28,135*l.*, and their expenditure 26,858*l.* In the 10 years the number of trusts increased by 21, the mileage by 1,196, the receipts by 12,131*l.*, and the expenditure by 6,121*l.*

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The number of municipalities remains as it was in 1866, namely, 21. The annual value of rateable property has diminished from 567,892*l.* to 506,469*l.* in 1875. The receipts have increased, though very slightly, from 54,202*l.* to 54,496*l.* The amount derived from local rates had, however, increased from 29,296*l.* to 36,411*l.*, while the amount received during the year from the public Treasury declined from 11,852*l.* to 5,310*l.* The expenditure in 1866 was 63,935*l.*, in 1875 it was only 55,580*l.* It should, however, be remarked that the receipts and expenditure for 1866 include debit and credit balances, which are eliminated in the following years.

VI.—Crown Lands, Agriculture, &c.

The extent of Crown land leased during the past year was—on the main land, 661,371 acres; islands, 802,552 acres; making together 1,463,923 acres, the rental from which amounted to 7,497*l.* 0*s.* 4*d.* On the acreage, as compared with that of the previous year, there was an increase of 115,523, and on the rental an increase of 1,598*l.* 9*s.* 9*d.* The total amount received for rental of Crown lands of all descriptions, as shown by the Treasury accounts, was in 1875, 10,922*l.* 8*s.* 5*d.*; in 1874, 7,637*l.* 16*s.* 2*d.*, the increase being 3,284*l.* 12*s.* 3*d.*, or rather more than 43 per cent.

The whole Colony contains 16,788,000 acres, or 26,215 square miles, of which 4,024,808 acres had been alienated at the end of 1875, leaving 12,753,192 acres as the extent of the public estate. The area of land, omitting fractions, sold in the last two years is shown below :—

—	Country Lots.								Town Lots.		Total.	
	50 acres and under.		50 to 100 acres.		100 to 500 acres.		500 acres and over.		No. of Lots.	Area.	No. of Lots.	Area.
	No. of Lots.	Area.	No. of Lots.	Area.	No. of Lots.	Area.	No. of Lots.	Area.				
1874	139	4,000	58	3,836	33	Acres. 6,125	35	Acres. 58,174	109	Acres. 551	369	Acres. 73,286
1875	137	4,443	58	4,604	36	7,916	12	24,541	135	803	378	42,307

There was thus a slight falling off in the number and area of the smallest country lots, and a very great decrease in those of the largest; while on the town lots there was a considerable increase.

The following was the amount for which the land was sold, and the average price in the same year :—

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Years.	Amount for which Sold						Average Price per Acre.		
	Country Lots.			Town Lots.		Total.	For Country Lots.		For Town Lots.
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
1874	80,524	15	6	5,224	0	0	85,748	15	6
1875	44,032	18	0	2,962	6	8	46,995	4	8

This large decrease in the sales of land in the latter year may, I suppose, be accounted for by the fall in the price of wool and agricultural produce, leaving the growers so much less money to spend in satisfying their "earth hunger."

As regards auriferous lands, only 20 acres were leased for gold mining purposes, and only five prospecting areas, containing in all 31 acres, were granted in 1875. During the year 10 leases, of 190 acres, were abandoned or forfeited.

The decline in gold mining was, however, much more than compensated by the greatly increased attention bestowed on the search for tin. This will be seen from a glance at the following figures:—

Description of Mineral.	Leases granted during the Year.						Leases in Force on 31st December.					
	Number.		Area.*		Rental.*		Number.*		Area.*		Rental.*	
	1874.	1875.	1874.	1875.	1874.	1875.	1874.	1875.	1874.	1875.	1874.	1875.
Tin	16	66	1,279	5,204	320	1,301	22	88	1,759	6,988	440	1,793
Iron	5	1	193	30	48	4	22	23	1,763	1,793	441	1,793
Coal	5	1	378	20	90	10	6	7	383	403	115	115
Bismuth	—	3	—	240	—	60	—	3	—	240	—	240
Slate	4	—	171	—	21	—	5	5	251	251	31	31
Lime	1	—	80	—	10	—	1	1	80	80	10	10
Total	81	71	2,101	5,494	489	1,375	56	127	4,236	9,730	1,037	1,037

The next subject that claims our attention is that of agriculture. Much space and many words will be saved by merely comparing the aggregate of the returns for the last two years. And first, as to acreage—

—	1874-5.	1875-6.	Increase (+) or decrease (-).
Wheat	57,633	42,745	— 14,888
Barley	5,129	6,039	+ 910
Oats	32,704	32,556	— 148
Pease	5,174	5,951	+ 777
Potatoes	6,978	6,906	— 72
Turnips	1,777	1,897	+ 120
Mangel wurzel	1,041	1,137	+ 96
Hay	30,486	34,758	+ 4,272
Hops	656	661	+ 5

* Omitting fractions.

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—	1874-5.	1875-6.	Increase (+) or decrease (-).
Gardens and orchards	-	5,976	6,189 + 213
In green forage	-	1,058	941 - 117
Other crops	-	2,557*	2,719* + 162
Total land under crop	-	151,169*	142,499* - 8,670
In permanent artificial grasses	-	93,176	102,023 + 8,847
Under bare fallow	-	22,512	20,517 - 1,995
All other cultivated land	-	59,629	67,743 + 8,114
Total land under cultivation	-	326,486	332,782 + 6,296

In many districts it seems the tendency was to abandon agriculture in favour of stock-keeping. At Horton the farmers are reported to be giving up wheat growing, having found that the climate and circumstances are not favourable to it. From several districts we have complaints of the difficulty of obtaining labour. All these causes would naturally tend to diminish the area of land under wheat.

The following was the average acreage under the principal crops or headings in the first and last halves of the past decennium.

—	1866-70.	1871-5.
Wheat	-	63,463
Barley	-	7,211
Oats	-	29,428
Potatoes	-	9,675
Hay	-	33,715
Hops	-	412
Total land in crop	-	156,551
Permanent artificial grasses	-	78,148
Total land under cultivation	-	299,293
		333,061

Here the tendency to prefer pastoral to agricultural pursuits is at once apparent. The only crop in which there is a substantial increase is hops. Oats had a small increase, but not at all in proportion to the augmentation of population or of the whole breadth of land in crop.

In regard to the produce it appears from the collectors' reports that the decrease in the yield of wheat was caused in a great degree, if not entirely, by the appearance of rust. The same cause occasioned an increase in the hay crop, the collectors being instructed, whenever wheat is cut for hay, to return it not as wheat but as hay.

In looking over the decennial return of produce we find that

* Between these and the corresponding figures in the returns there are some differences, which are adjusted under the head of "Other Crops," resulting from throwing off fractions, or treating them as whole numbers, as the case may be.

TASMANIA. — the wheat crop of 1875-6 (700,092 bushels) was never so small in any other year of the period. It was largest in the first, fourth, seventh, and ninth years. To compare the total produce of one year with another without taking into consideration the area from which it was derived would, however, be quite fallacious, and therefore, instead of dwelling larger on this return, I shall proceed to notice the next,—that of the average produce for the 10 years.

Bad as the wheat crop of 1875-6 was, it was by no means the worst in the period, the average being 16.38 bushels per acre; whereas in 1873-4 it was only 16.17; the lowest having been 13.39 in 1871-2. The average for barley in 1875-6 was 27.84 bushels, the greatest in the decennium; for oats 25.41 bushels, a fair average; for potatoes 3.55 tons, also a fair average. The late rains which brought rust to the wheat made the hay crop more abundant, the average (1.42 tons) being unusually high. The season was also favourable for hops, the average (1,563 lbs.) being the highest known.

On comparing the average yield of the principal crops in the first and last halves of the eight* years (ending in March) from 1869 to 1876, there appears in every case a decided increase in favour of the latter, as will be seen by the figures given below:—

	Average Yield.			
	1869-72.		1873-6.	
Wheat, bushels	-	-	14.81	17.42
Barley	-	-	19.50	23.62
Oats	-	-	21.96	24.77
Potatoes	-	-	3.39	3.59
Hops	-	-	904.27	1,386.97

The employment of labour-saving machines in agricultural operations has certainly, on the whole, advanced. Thus the number of cultivators returned was—in 1867-8, 35; in 1875-6, 127: of hay elevators worked by steam in 1867-8, 1; in 1875-6, 14: of hay rakes in 1867-8, 113; in 1875-6, 149. In the same way horse-hoes, grubbers, and scarifiers increased from 254 to 478; ploughs, subsoil, from 21 in 1870-1 to 114; reaping machines from 68 to 117; reapers and mowers combined, from 18 in 1870-1 to 103; threshing machines, worked by steam, from 35 in 1867-8 to 56, there being, however, a decrease on the number worked by horses.

According to the returns, there were in the Colony on the 31st March last 23,473 horses, 118,694 neat cattle, 1,719,768 sheep and lambs, 2,242 goats, 8 mules, 13 asses, and 47,664 pigs. The horses have varied very slightly in numbers during the last 10

* The produce of 1866 appears to have been entirely exceptional, and is therefore excluded, which will account for the comparison being confined to eight years instead of being extended to ten.

years. Horned cattle are increasing in a satisfactory proportion, the number in 1875 having been 4,142 greater than in the previous year, and that in 1876 being 8,244 greater than in 1875. The increase as between the first and last years of the decade was 30,324. Sheep, as compared with the number in the previous year, increased by 5,600. There was a gradual decline in the numbers from 1866 to 1872, when a reaction commenced, which has continued ever since. In pigs there was a decrease in 1876 of 3,804, and in 1875 of 8,160. The number in the former year (47,664) was the smallest in all the years of the decade, with the exception of 1866, when it was 33,259.

The number of sheep given above does not include those on the islands in Bass's Straits, of which no account was taken until 1873. It has varied between 11 and 12 thousand.

In regard to the number of live stock slaughtered at Hobart Town and Launceston, since it varies very considerably year by year, it will be sufficient to observe, as bearing upon the question of supply of food to the inhabitants, that in the two last quinquennial periods the yearly average was as follows :—

—	Sheep.	Neat Cattle.	Pigs.
1866-70 -	79,429	6,940	3,317
1871-75 -	64,915	8,043	4,760

Before quitting the subject of the agricultural and live stock returns, I think it necessary to say a few words of a general nature on their preparation and publication.

Last year they appeared in the Gazette of June 15. This year it was impossible to publish them earlier than the 11th July, in consequence of delay on the part of some of the districts in supplying the information required from them. The returns from Glenorchy were not received until July 8, but I am led to hope that they will be rendered in better time next year. From Sorell the returns were received on June 29. It is observable that it is not in the larger districts where the work is heaviest that these delays occur, but in the smaller. It is but justice to say that from the wardens I have always met with every courtesy and with prompt attention to any appeals which I have had occasion to make to them.

It appears from the reports of some of the collectors that they have experienced more difficulty in this than in previous years in obtaining returns from the farmers, of whom many are possessed by the notion that there is a necessary connexion between statistics and taxation. A frequent cause of delay is neglect on the part of those to whom schedules are sent by the collectors to return them. There is no remedy for these inconveniences but in making the growers understand (a slow process, doubtless) that it is for their own interest that correct statistics relating to their productions should be obtained. In the United Kingdom

TASMANIA. much has been done in this direction by means of the newspapers and other publications, and by the use of the same means a similar result would probably follow here.

VII.—*Law, Crime, &c.*

The number of persons committed for trial in 1875 was 108, 90 being males and 18 females. As to their civil condition, 61, or 56·48 per cent., had never previously been sentenced; 39, or 36·11 per cent. were free by servitude; the remainder, or 7·41 per cent., being holders of conditional pardons or tickets of leave, or prisoners under sentence. The following figures will show how the commitments are still decreasing:—

No. of Commitments.			No. of Commitments.		
1871	-	-	137	1874	-
1872	-	-	123	1875	-
1873	-	-	125		120
					108

In 1866 the number of persons committed was 238.

Of the 108 persons committed in 1875, 78 were brought to trial, 61 for felonies, and 17 for misdemeanors. 35 were offenders against the person, 37 against property, and 6 belonged to neither of these classes. The number convicted was 49, of whom 1 found guilty of murder was executed. The convictions have diminished to a remarkable extent, as will be seen by comparing the numbers year by year. They were—in 1874, 63; in 1873, 75; in 1872, 82; in 1871, 74; in 1870, 83; in 1868, 99; and in 1866, 155. Only 4 criminals suffered the extreme penalty of the law in the last 10 years. It will be observed that of the offences against the person, 18, or more than one half, were of a kind which is conventionally designated as “immoral.”

The returns relating to crime have been entirely remodelled, and two sets have been adopted, the one in compliance with the desire of the Home Government, framed as nearly as possible in accordance with the forms forwarded by the Secretary of State, the other designed to meet local requirements and to admit of comparison with the statistics of the other Colonies.

Among the first set of returns as proposed for acceptance was one of “offences reported.” I have not been able to include this in the present volume in consequence of difficulties having arisen in the course of collecting the information for 1875, which could not be obviated within the time at our disposal. I have also had doubts as to the meaning intended to be attached to the word “offences” in this case. Standing alone, with no qualifying adjective, the term would naturally be deemed to include *all* offences made known directly to the police, but the practice has hitherto been to restrict the returns in England to “indictable,” and in this Colony to “graver” offences, or as it is explained by a competent authority, “the crimes in question are of the graver “class, and are such as would be the subject of some hue and “cry, or as would lead to an application for police assistance.

"All lesser offences dealt with summarily are excluded."* The question then is, did they who devised the form contemplate the continuance of this practice, or did they desire to initiate an entire change of system? In the latter case, to make the returns of any use for purposes of comparison, the same change would have to be made in the crime statistics of the United Kingdom. Until this doubt is removed there can be no certainty that any return which we might furnish would satisfy the expectations of those at whose instance it was procured.

A similar doubt in regard to cases dealt with by magistrates has been a source of much embarrassment. A large number of cases of breach of byelaws and of nonpayment of rates is disposed of in the mayors' courts at Hobart Town and Launceston, these have been included for the first time in the returns. In the municipalities, also, there are numerous cases of the same kind, which, I presume, have been returned in former years. There are also other cases beside those arising out of the collection of rates in which conviction is followed, not by actual punishment, but only by orders for the payment of money, and these have been specially distinguished. All these being breaches of law are technically "offences," and if we exclude them, it should be in accordance with a general agreement and recognised principle.

Deducting the cases at Hobart Town and Launceston just referred to, the number of persons dealt with magisterially in 1875 was 6,407 against 6,513 in 1874, and 6,576 in 1871. The convictions (exclusive of orders for payment of money) were rather more numerous in 1875 than in 1874, being 4,438 and 4,433 respectively. In 1871 they were 4,207.

The subject of litigation need not be dwelt on at any length, since it presents no very remarkable features. The business of the Supreme Court in the last two years was as follows:—

		1874.	1875.
Ordinary jurisdiction.	Summons issued - - -	204	250
	Cases tried - - -	20	21
	Summons issued - - -	53	72
	Cases tried - - -	37	47
Under "Small Debts Act."	Amount sued for - - -	£ 1,188	£ 1,521
	Amount of verdicts obtained - - -	529	691

That of the inferior courts was as under:—

		1874.	1875.
Summons issued	- - - - -	2,280	2,244
Cases tried	- - - - -	1,258	1,330
Amount sued for	- - - - -	£ 11,699	£ 14,267
Amount of verdicts obtained	- - - - -	5,849	6,845

* Mr. Hammick, in Journal of Statist. Society, 1867, p. 392.

TASMANIA. — There has been a large increase of business in these courts during the 10 years, the cases tried having been only 451 in 1866, 872 in 1867, 881 in 1868, 1,261 in 1869, rising gradually to 1,968 in 1872—the highest number in the period.

A return relating to divorce cases has now, for the first time, been given. No petitions were presented during the year, and only two decrees (for dissolution of marriage) were granted.

Probates and letters of administration were granted to the number of 150, the value of the property being sworn under £7,312*l.*

The number of bankruptcies was fewer than in the previous year, being 30 against 41 in 1874. In 1875, 21 were voluntary on the part of the bankrupts, and 9 compulsory, on petition of creditors.

The mortgages under the two systems, in 1874 and 1875, were :—

—	1874.		1875.	
	No.	Amount.	No.	Amount.
Under Lands Titles Act	121	£ 36,393	127	£ 31,233
Under the old system	219	113,781	273	242,574
	340	150,174	400	273,807

On bills of sale there was an increase last year, as will be seen by the following figures :—

—	1874.	1875.
Bills of sale	110	145
Renewals	39	33
Amount secured	£ 46,092	£ 69,868

On grant deeds enrolled, on the other hand, there was a considerable decrease, the numbers being 650 and 419 in 1874 and 1875 respectively.

Inquests on persons were more numerous in 1875, the number of males being 109, against 93 in 1874; that of females remaining the same, namely, 45. Verdicts of suicide were returned in 7 cases, against 5 in the previous year, all being males. The cases of "accidental death" were also more frequent, being 68 in 1875, and 53 in 1874.

VIII.—*Education, &c.*

During the year 154 schools under the Board of Education were open, with 263 teachers and assistant teachers, and 39 pupil-teachers and paid monitors. The number of distinct scholars on

the rolls was 12,271, the average number on the rolls being 8,145, and the average daily number in attendance 5,703. There was an increase in the number of schools of 7, in the number of teachers of all grades of 40, in the total number of scholars on the books of 113, in the average number of 175; while, on the other hand, on the average daily number attending school, there was a decrease of 164. As between the first and last years of the decennial period, there was an increase on the number of schools of 52·47 per cent., and on the average daily attendance of scholars of 45·11 per cent., the increase of population being 7·93 per cent.

The expenditure on the public schools in 1875, including the cost of administration and inspection, was 15,667*l.*, or 2*l.* 14*s.* 11*½d.* for each child, calculated on the average daily attendance; in addition to which, a sum of 4,797*l.*, or 16*s.* 9*¾d.*, was contributed by the parents, making the total annual cost of instructing each child 3*l.* 11*s.* 9*d.* During the 10 years the amount granted by the State has increased by 26·25 per cent., the school fees paid by the parents by 23·38 per cent., while the cost of instruction per head has diminished by 15·45 per cent.

The amount disbursed for school exhibitions during the past year was 538*l.* 3*s.* 4*d.* The expenses on account of examiners' fees and other incidental charges being 101*l.* 1*s.*, in all 639*l.* 4*s.* 4*d.*

The expenditure of the Council of Education was 1,336*l.* 7*s.*, the outlay on account of the degree of Associate of Arts being 237*l.*, of the scholarships 1,033*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.*, and of secretary's salary and general expenses 65*l.* 19*s.* 10*d.*

Thus the total amount contributed by the State for the purposes of school education was as follows:—

	£
Primary schools - - -	15,667
Scholars at superior schools - - -	639
Higher education - - -	1,336
	<hr/>
	£17,642

Of this amount the proportion appropriated to the primary schools was 88·81 per cent., leaving 11·19 per cent. for the higher and intermediate branches of education.

Of the friendly societies, 25 filed returns for 1875, against 18 for the previous year. These 25 had 1,802 members, their receipts were 6,082*l.*, their expenditure 5,386*l.*, and their capital 12,133*l.*

By a large number of the societies that part of the Act which provides that returns shall be filed is habitually set at naught, and the members seem to be quite indifferent to the fact that under such circumstances they have no legal remedy for any wrong that may be committed against them, and are absolutely at the mercy of those who manage their affairs.

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IX.—*Vital Statistics.*

The births registered in 1875 were 3,105, being 8 more than in 1874. The males were 1,623 in number, the females 1,482. The proportion of males to females was therefore as 109·51 to 100. In the previous year it was as 107·02 to 100, and I then remarked that only in two years since 1865 had that rate been exceeded, in 1870, when it was 112·23, and in 1871, when it was 107·97 to 100. The rate for 1875 was therefore the highest in that period, except that of 1870.

The males were 22 in excess of those in 1874; the females fewer by 14.

The birth rate for 1875 was 29·88 per 1,000 of the population living at the middle of the year. For the 10 years ending with that year it was 29·69 per 1,000. It varied but slightly in the first and second halves of the decennium, in which it was 29·66 and 29·72 respectively, the excess being in favour of the latter period.

The births exceeded the deaths by 1,026. They were to the deaths in the proportion of 66·96 to 100. In the previous year, with a moderate birth rate and exceptionally high death rate, the proportion was as 54·57 to 100.

The deaths registered in 1875 were 2,078, those of males and females being 1,204 and 874 respectively. Never has the absolute number been so large since the Colony was founded. The nearest to it was 2,017 in 1853; but since the population was then considerably smaller, of course the rate of mortality was much greater than it was in the last year. The death rate per 1,000 in 1875 was 20·01; in 1874, 16·22; the average of the previous eight years being 14·07.

The two last years having shown an exceptionally high mortality, and the previous year (1873) being an average one, I shall take the three as a basis of comparison.

The proportion borne by the deaths from each class of disease to those from all specified causes was as follows:—

Classes of Disease.	Ratio per cent. to Total Specified Diseases.		
	1873.	1874.	1875.
I. Zymotic - -	15·95	18·92	23·51
II. Constitutional - -	16·35	12·43	12·58
III. Local - -	38·63	41·98	40·83
IV. Developmental - -	21·87	20·06	17·95
V. Violent - -	7·20	6·61	5·13
	100·00	100·00	100·00

The source of the great mortality in the last two years is thus found to have been the unusual prevalence of diseases of a zymotic and local character. The absolute numbers in the three years were—

—	1873.	1874.	1875.
Zymotic - - -	237	315	486
Local - - -	574	699	844

The increase is out of all proportion to the growth of population; for while the addition to the population from 1873 to 1875 was only 3.38 per 1,000, the excess of deaths from these causes was—

From zymotic diseases - 1050.63 per 1,000
From local diseases - 470.38 per 1,000

That is, for every 1,000 persons who died of zymotic diseases in 1873, there were 2,050 in 1875, and for every 1,000 in 1873 there were 1,470 in 1875 who died of local diseases.

The increase of deaths of persons of both sexes under the former class is traceable chiefly to the diseases named below, where the mortality arising from them in the triennial period is shown:—

—	1873.	1874.	1875.
Measles - - - -	—	—	129
Scarlatina - - - -	10	21	31
Diphtheria - - - -	28	36	54
Quinsy - - - -	1	5	5
Croup - - - -	15	22	21
Typhus, typhoid, infantile, &c., fever -	24	44	50
Erysipelas - - - -	6	14	13
Metria - - - -	—	9	12
Diarrhoea - - - -	55	69	92

Had there been no cases of measles, the rate of mortality would have been 18.75 per 1,000, still considerably above the average.

Measles and scarlatina raged through the neighbouring Colonies, the former extending as far as Fiji, where it committed fearful ravages. The comparatively very mild visitation of these diseases with which our Colony was affected could therefore not have been prevented by any sanitary measures. With some others, such as

TASMANIA.—diphtheria, typhoid, or "filth fever" as it has been called, and probably diarrhoea, the case is different. The observance of proper precautions would in many cases, if not in most, lessen the frequency and virulence of these maladies. There was an outbreak of diphtheria at Brighton, also at Franklin and Sorell. In Hobart district there was a large increase of deaths from this cause, and sporadic cases also appeared in several districts where there were none in the previous year. Typhoid fever and diarrhoea have largely increased during the period above referred to, the former especially in Hobart district. The increase in metria, or puerperal fever, is remarkable. Since the appointment of the health officer for the last-named district means have been taken to remove some of the sources of disease in Hobart Town, and the mortality, as I am informed, has since greatly declined.

In the local class of diseases, those which showed considerable increase were as follows:—

—	—	1873.	1874.	1875.
Order 1 - {	Cephalitis - - - - -	7	21	25
	Convulsions - - - - -	62	82	99
Order 2 -	Diseases of heart and circulatory system	80	113	118
Order 3 - {	Bronchitis - - - - -	62	60	115
	Pneumonia - - - - -	58	66	99
	Congestion of lungs, &c. - - -	20	40	66
Order 4 -	Diseases of digestive organs - - -	75	105	107

The same peccant matters which caused so large a proportion of zymotic (or fermentative) diseases, no doubt affected also the brain and nerves, the circulatory, respiratory, and the digestive systems. Proceeding on the basis as to population of the registration district of Launceston (which is not conterminous with any census district) laid down in a paper on the vital statistics of the Colony which I read before the Royal Society of Tasmania in October last, I find that the rate of mortality in the country districts in 1875 was 15.20 per 1,000 of the mean population of those districts; while the death rate in the urban districts (Hobart and Launceston) taken together was 28.05 per 1,000. In Hobart district, taken separately, the rate was 28.78 per 1,000; in Launceston district, 26.23 per 1,000. But exceptionally high as these rates are for this Colony, there is reason to believe that the mortality in Melbourne, where scarlatina raged during the year, will appear to have been much greater. One curious feature brought out by these calculations is, that the excess of mortality shown by them as compared with the ordinary rates was much larger in the rural than in the urban districts.

The rate of mortality for the two sexes in 1875, calculated on the estimated number of each sex at the middle of the year, was, for males 21.94, and for females 17.82 per 1,000 living.

Of the whole number of deaths from specified causes, the proportions per cent. at different ages are shown below, and compared with the average for the five years 1869-73:—

—	1875.	1869-73.
Under 1 year	19.62	20.26
Between 1 and 2 years	7.23	3.95
,, 2 and 5 ,,	6.32	4.13
,, 5 and 10 ,,	4.72	2.76
,, 10 and 40 ,,	17.55	16.54
,, 40 and 60 ,,	15.86	21.00
,, 60 and 70 ,,	12.01	13.76
,, 70 and 80 ,,	11.91	12.53
,, 80 and 90 ,,	4.29	4.23
,, 90 and upwards	0.48	0.84

From this it appears that, notwithstanding the extraordinary mortality of the former year, the deaths of infants under one year were below the five years' average. The excess occurred between the ages of 1 and 40. Persons in middle and old age (40 to 80) were less affected by morbific influences than in ordinary years.

It may be mentioned that in each of the last three years 6 deaths were registered of persons who had committed suicide (only 1 out of the 18 being a female), which would make the proportion of suicides $57\frac{1}{4}$ in a million. For the eight years from 1868 to 1875 it was 58.82 in a million; and the proportion of males to females was as 43 to 5.

In the hospitals in 1875, 1,547 cases were treated, and 186 deaths occurred. The mortality was therefore at the rate of 12 per cent. In 1874 the cases were 1,443; the deaths 165; the mortality 11.36 per cent. Considering the greatly increased death rate throughout the Colony in the former year, the mortality in the hospitals must be regarded as very small in comparison.

NEW ZEALAND.

NEW ZEALAND.

No. 12.

Governor The Most Honourable The MARQUIS OF NORMANBY,
 K.C.M.G., to the EARL OF CARNARVON.—Received
 November 7, 1876.

MY LORD, Wellington, September 15, 1876.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith six copies of the statistics of New Zealand for the year 1875.

I have, &c.

(Signed) NORMANBY.

STATISTICS OF NEW ZEALAND, 1875.

Registrar-General's Office, Wellington,

SIR, August 19, 1876.

WHILE the importance of laying before both Houses of the General Assembly, during the first ensuing session, the complete volume of statistics for the previous year, instead of only presenting fragmentary tables, has been duly recognised, yet many practical difficulties have hitherto prevented that object being attained. I am, therefore, gratified at having to report that I have been able this year to surmount those difficulties, and to present the complete volume of statistics for 1875 at so early a date, and in time for the information therein given to be utilised by the Members of the General Assembly during session. The information relating to boroughs and road districts, recently added to the volume, may perhaps be considered at the present time to have especial interest.

As the late publication in former years has been largely attributed to the, perhaps unavoidable, delay in the Government printing office, I feel it my duty to acknowledge the zeal of the Government printer in rendering me every possible assistance in order to accelerate the publication of the various tables contained in the volume.

PART I.—BLUE BOOK.

This part, necessarily to a large extent a repetition of what has been already published in former statistics, has been amended and added to by including the changes in 1875.

PART II.—POPULATION AND VITAL STATISTICS.

The estimated population on the 31st December 1875 was, exclusive of the Maoris, 375,856, an increase on the estimated population of the 31st December 1874 of 33,996, or an increase at the rate of 9.94 per cent. for the 12 months.

The natural increase of the population during the year, as **NEW ZEALAND**, represented by the excess of births over deaths, was 8,726, an increase only 43 in number greater than that in 1874. This small increase upon that of 1874 is attributable to an excessive mortality during 1875, which will subsequently be referred to.

The increase during the year by excess of immigration over emigration was 25,270, a reduction of 12,836 on the similar increase in 1874.

Immigration.—The total immigration to New Zealand in 1875 amounted to 31,737, of whom 19,558 were males and 12,179 females. Of the males, 15,730 were adults (or over 12 years of age) and 3,828 were children. Of the females, 8,629 were adults and 3,550 children. Of these, the number whose passages were paid at the public expense amounted to 20,370. The immigrants unassisted numbered 11,367, of whom 6,328 were from the Australian Colonies, 3,444 from the United Kingdom, and 1,595 from other places.

Emigration.—The emigration during the year amounted to 6,467 persons, of whom 4,340 went to the Australian Colonies, 799 to the United Kingdom, and 1,328 to other places. There was thus, so far as regards free immigration, an excess of immigration over emigration of 1,988 persons from the Australian Colonies, 2,645 persons from the United Kingdom, and 267 persons from other places.

Aliens Naturalised.—The total number of aliens naturalised in 1875 amounted to 138, of whom 69 were Scandinavians, *i.e.*, Swedes, Norwegians, or Danes.

Vital Statistics.

Births.—The children born alive and registered in 1875 amounted to 14,438, an increase on the births in 1874 of 1,594. The birth-rate in 1875 was at the rate of 40.23 per 1,000 of the population, a slight increase on the rates in 1874 and 1873, when they were respectively 40.05 and 38.99. The rate cannot well be compared with the somewhat higher rates that obtained prior to 1873, as at that time the numbers included still-births.

The average birth-rate in England is about 35.3 per 1,000. As in the English population the females are more numerous than the males, while in New Zealand the males are largely in excess of the females, to compare the birth-rate in the Colony with the birth-rate in England the rate should be estimated on a total population of which the males do not exceed the females. Deducting from the population the surplus males, the birth-rate in New Zealand in 1875 would have been at the rate of 46.56 per 1,000 of the population of equal males and females.

Sex.—Of the children born alive, 7,490 were males and 6,948 were females, being at the rate of 107.8 boys to every 100 girls. This proportion is higher than that of last year, when it was 106.8 to the 100, and than obtains in England, where the proportion is 104 boys to 100 girls.

NEW ZEALAND. *Illegitimate Births.*—The number of illegitimate births registered in 1875 was 197, or equivalent to 1·36 per cent. of the births registered. This varies very slightly from the rate last year (1·30 per cent.), and is considerably less than the English rate in 1873 (5·2 per cent.).

Marriages.—The number of marriages in 1875 was 3,209, being an increase on the number in 1874 of 381; the number of persons married being at the rate of 17·88 per 1,000 of the mean population of the year. This is somewhat in excess of the English rates for 1872 and 1873, which were respectively 17·5 and 17·6. The rate in New Zealand is higher than that which prevails in any of the Australian Colonies, except Queensland; in the latter the persons married averaging 18·28 per 1,000 of the population.

Of the marriages in 1875, 973 were solemnized by ministers of Presbyterian denominations, 821 by ministers of the United Church of England and Ireland, 406 by ministers of the Wesleyan Methodist Society, 381 by ministers of the Roman Catholic Church, 292 by ministers of other denominations, and 336 by registrars.

Signature of Marriage Registers.—Of the 3,209 men who were married, 131, or 4·08 per cent., signed the register with marks; a slightly higher rate than in 1874, when it was 3·92 per cent. The number of women signing by marks in 1875 was 295, or 9·19 per cent., against 9·30 per cent. in 1874. In 1873, these rates were respectively, men 2·94 per cent., and women 7·86 per cent.

Ages of Persons Married.—In 1875, of 3,209 women married, 921 were under 21 years of age, and 2,288 were 21 years and over; 1,216 women married at the ages 21-25, and 592 at the ages 25-30. Of the men married in 1875, 66 were under 21 years of age, and thus, of every 100 men married, 2·06 were under 21, and of every 100 females married, 28·70 were under 21 years of age. In the previous year the proportions per cent. were 1·31 and 27·97 respectively. These proportions differ greatly from those prevailing in England, where the proportion of the men under 21 of those who marry is much greater than in New Zealand, and the proportion of women under 21 of those who marry is less than the proportion in New Zealand, the proportions in England having been in 1873, men 8·2 per cent., and women 22·4 per cent. The corresponding proportions in Victoria in 1874 were, men 2·76, and women 30·10.

Deaths.—The deaths registered in 1875 amounted to 5,712, an increase on the deaths in 1874 of 1,551. The death-rate in 1875 was exceptionally high, having amounted to 15·92 per 1,000 of the population, the highest rate for the last 10 years; the highest previous rate during that period having been 12·97 per 1,000 in 1874. Of the deaths in 1875, 2,777, or 48·62 per cent. of the whole number, were of children under 5 years of age; against 2,079, or a rate of 49·96 per cent., in 1874. In order to compare the death-rate of children in different portions of the Colony the

following table is given showing the proportion of deaths under **NEW ZEALAND**. 5 years in every 100 deaths in each of the provinces, and also the proportion of children living under 5 years to each 100 of the population at the census of March 1874:—

	Deaths under 5 Years per 100.			Proportion of living Children under 5 to the 100 of Population. Census of 1874.
	1873.	1874.	1875.	
Auckland	52.74	47.12	51.04	17.38
Taranaki	32.00	46.38	44.00	17.18
Hawke's Bay	46.15	62.57	51.64	17.21
Wellington	45.30	52.21	49.13	17.58
Marlborough	44.61	34.61	57.14	17.93
Nelson	35.84	41.30	39.71	15.65
Westland	46.24	44.10	50.00	17.01
Canterbury	50.29	55.89	53.56	18.26
Otago	48.56	46.76	42.78	17.15
The Colony	48.42	49.96	48.62	17.36

If the infant mortality be estimated by the proportion of deaths to the births registered, it will be found that to each 100 births in New Zealand there were, in 1875, 12.58 deaths of children under 1 year, the corresponding proportion in 1874 having been 10.85.

The following statement exhibits the proportion of such deaths to the births in some of the principal boroughs in the Colony.

To every 100 births there were:—

	Deaths under 1 Year.	
	1874.	1875.
Auckland	13.8	21.6
Thames	12.8	21.3
Wellington	19.3	15.8
Nelson	5.8	18.0
Christchurch	18.1	18.4
Dunedin	12.6	18.4
Hokitika	17.1	16.7

The mortality among infants was thus exceptionally great in the majority of the boroughs, and generally in the Colony. Although measles was epidemic, yet the proportion of deaths from miasmatic diseases, as a whole, was not increased. There was, however, a marked increase in the deaths from tubercular diseases and diseases of the respiratory system.

Sexes of Deceased Persons.—Of the deaths, 3,376 were of males and 2,336 of females, which, upon the estimated mean number of each sex living in the year, gives a rate of mortality among the males of 16.56 per 1,000, and among the females of 15.07 per 1,000, that is, in equal numbers living, 110 males died to every

NEW ZEALAND. 100 females. This is a larger proportion of male deaths than obtained in 1874, the numbers then having been 99·61 males to the 100 females, but is only 1 in excess of the English average for 33 years.

Causes of Death.—The following table gives the classification of diseases which have terminated fatally, with the per-centages of each class and order of disease to the total mortality in 1874 and 1875:—

—	1874.	1875.
CLASS I.—Zymotic Diseases.		
Order 1. Miasmatic diseases - - -	26·92	26·84
" 2. Enthetic diseases - - -	0·14	0·28
" 3. Dietic diseases - - -	1·85	2·05
" 4. Parasitic diseases - - -	0·41	0·87
	29·32	30·04
CLASS II.—Constitutional Diseases.		
Order 1. Diathetic diseases - - -	2·93	2·38
" 2. Tubercular diseases - - -	9·40	9·82
	12·33	12·20
CLASS III.—Local Diseases.		
Order 1. Nervous diseases - - -	10·67	9·61
" 2. Circulation, diseases of - - -	4·71	4·83
" 3. Respiratory organs, diseases of - - -	12·28	12·87
" 4. Digestive organs, diseases of - - -	6·37	6·21
" 5. Urinary organs, diseases of - - -	0·99	1·09
" 6. Generative organs, diseases of - - -	0·26	0·12
" 7. Locomotive organs, diseases of - - -	0·22	0·12
" 8. Integumentary system, diseases of - - -	0·53	0·25
	36·03	35·10
CLASS IV.—Developmental Diseases.		
Order 1. Children, diseases of - - -	4·80	4·76
" 2. Adults, diseases of - - -	1·47	1·21
" 3. Old people, diseases of - - -	1·32	1·32
" 4. Nutrition, diseases of - - -	5·58	6·16
	13·17	13·45
CLASS V.—Violence.		
Order 1. Accident or negligence - - -	7·31	6·86
" 3. Homicide - - -	0·07	0·26
" 4. Suicide - - -	0·48	0·51
" 5. Execution - - -	0·02	0·02
Violent deaths not classed - - -	—	0·18
	7·88	7·83
Causes of death not specified - - -	1·27	1·38

Notwithstanding the increased death-rate last year (the increase having amounted to 2·95 per 1,000 of the population), yet there was not any marked difference between the proportions of deaths

in any particular class or order from those obtaining in 1874. **NEW ZEALAND.** — The increase appears to have been general in all classes of disease. While the proportion of zymotic diseases, as a whole, was slightly increased, the proportion of deaths from miasmatic diseases was rather less. The principal fatal miasmatic diseases in 1875 were measles (289), diphtheria (106), typhus and typhoid fever (311), and dysentery and diarrhoea (510). Measles in 1875 was epidemic in nearly all the provinces. There was a large reduction in the deaths from diphtheria, the number in 1874 having been 187. The greatest number of deaths in 1875 from this cause occurred in Canterbury (44), Otago (24), and Auckland (20). The deaths from typhus and typhoid fever chiefly occurred in—

Auckland	-	-	-	69
Hawke's Bay	-	-	-	29
Wellington	-	-	-	46
Canterbury	-	-	-	104
Otago	-	-	-	40

The proportion of deaths from that cause to the 1,000 of population was, in each of the above provinces, as follows:—

		1874.	1875.
Auckland	-	0·53	0·90
Hawke's Bay	-	(1 death)	2·40
Wellington	-	0·58	1·22
Canterbury	-	0·86	1·39
Otago	-	0·30	0·39

Of the 510 deaths from dysentery and diarrhoea, 458 were of children under 5 years of age, of whom 331 were under 1 year.

The deaths from tubercular diseases were in the proportion of 9·82 per cent. of the total deaths in 1875, against 9·40 in 1874. Of these, the deaths from phthisis were in the proportion of 5·93 per cent. in 1875, and 6·73 in 1874. This is only an apparent not a real decrease, caused by the largely increased general rate of mortality. The actual number of deaths from phthisis was 339 in 1875, against 270 in 1874; the proportion to the 1,000 of population having been 0·94 in 1875, and 0·84 in 1874.

The number of violent deaths has increased in the same ratio as other deaths, the proportion to the total deaths being very little different from the proportion in 1874. Of these deaths, 164 were from drowning, viz., 142 males and 22 females, against 92 males and 11 females in 1874; of these deaths, 5 males and 2 females committed suicide. The total number of suicides in 1875 was 29; of these, 6 were females.

Hospitals.—4,033 males and 1,130 females were admitted into the various hospitals in the Colony during the year 1875; 407 males and 87 females died, and 3,596 males and 1,063 females were discharged. The total number relieved amounted to 5,724 in-door patients, including inmates at the commencement of the year, and 9,121 out-door patients. There was provision in the

NEW ZEALAND. hospitals for 714 males and 217 females, or a total of 931 beds. The aggregate number of cubic feet in the sleeping wards amounted to 915,305, or on an average about 983 cubic feet for every bed. The amount of space in each hospital varies considerably. In 10 hospitals the space in the sleeping wards amounted to 1,000 cubic feet and upwards for each bed, the highest being Westport, 1,562 feet; in 12 hospitals the amount of space is between 500 and 1,000 feet; and in three cases the space is under 500, viz., Timaru, 379 feet; Coromandel, 475 feet; and Switzers, 491 feet.

Lunatic Asylums.—The number of patients remaining in the various lunatic asylums at the end of the year amounted to 479 males and 251 females; of these, 112 males and 64 females were supposed to be curable, and 367 males and 187 females supposed to be incurable; 224 males and 108 females were admitted during the year, and 143 males and 75 females discharged; 669 males and 337 females, or a total of 1,006 persons, were treated as inmates of these asylums during the year. The asylums in the aggregate afford accommodation for 512 males and 273 females, or a total of 785. As the aggregate number of cubic feet in the sleeping wards amounted to 414,746, there was an average space of 528 cubic feet in the sleeping wards for each patient, or rather more than equal to a room of 8 cubic feet measurement.

PART III.—TRADE AND INTERCHANGE.

Shipping.—The total shipping inwards at the various ports of the Colony was 926 vessels of 416,727 tons, being an increase as compared with 1874 of 70 in the number of vessels and 17,431 in the tonnage. Of the shipping inwards, 152 vessels, of 139,095 tonnage, arrived from the United Kingdom; 622 vessels, of 216,278 tonnage, from the Australian Colonies; 75 vessels, of 30,612 tonnage, from Islands in the Pacific; 28 vessels, of 10,554 tonnage, from the United States of America; 10 vessels, of 4,141 tonnage, from Hong Kong and China; 6 vessels, of 4,728 tonnage, from European Continental States; 12 vessels, of 3,037 tonnage, from the Mauritius; 5 vessels, of 3,236 tonnage, from other ports; and 16 vessels, of 5,046 tonnage, from the Southern Whale Fishery.

The total shipping outwards was 940 vessels, of 417,820 tonnage, being an increase as compared with 1874 of 118 in the number of vessels and 32,287 in the tonnage. Of the shipping outwards, 57 vessels, of 51,788 tonnage, cleared for the United Kingdom; 679 vessels, of 269,829 tonnage, for the Australian Colonies; 132 vessels, of 50,444 tonnage, for the Pacific Islands; 15 vessels, of 16,907 tonnage, for India and East Indian Islands; 20 vessels, of 9,785 tonnage, for the United States; 4 vessels, of 1,944 tonnage, for Hong Kong and China; 10 vessels, of 8,769 tonnage, for South American ports; 3 vessels, of 2,217 tonnage, for British Columbia; and 20 vessels, of 6,137 tonnage, for the Southern Whale Fishery.

The arrivals from and departures to the Sandwich Islands include the mail steamers carrying the mails for San Francisco.

The number of registered vessels belonging to ports in New New Zealand. Zealand on the 31st December 1875 was 502, of 42,025 tonnage, viz., 428 sailing vessels of 34,759 tonnage, and 74 steam vessels of 7,266 tonnage, against 400 sailing vessels of 32,192 tonnage and 71 steam vessels of 6,743 tonnage on the 31st December 1874.

The amount of tonnage belonging to each port was as follows:— Auckland, 14,718; Napier, 487; Wellington, 8,315; Nelson, 991; Lyttelton, 6,652; Dunedin, 9,674; and Invercargill, 1,188.

Exports.—The total value of the exports from New Zealand in 1875 (excluding the value of imported goods exported from the Colony) was 5,475,844*l.*, against a similar total in 1874 of 5,152,143*l.*, being an increase of 323,701*l.*, but still 2,126*l.* less than the similar total in 1873.

Gold exported.—The total value of gold exported from New Zealand in 1875 was 1,407,770*l.*, against 1,505,331*l.* in 1874, showing a decrease of 97,561*l.*

The following table shows the amount of increase or of decrease in each province:—

VALUE of GOLD exported in 1874 and 1875 respectively.

—	1874.	1875.	Decrease.
Produce of the gold fields in the Province of Auckland - - - - -	£ 305,068	£ 262,156	£ 42,912
Produce of the gold fields in the Province of Marlborough - - - - -	4,748	4,636	112
Produce of the gold fields in the Province of Nelson - - - - -	342,611	370,865	Incr. 28,254
Produce of the gold fields in the Province of Westland - - - - -	310,750	282,481	28,269
Produce of the gold fields in the Province of Otago - - - - -	542,154	487,632	54,522
Total - - - - -	1,505,331	1,407,770	97,561

The total quantity of gold exported from New Zealand to the 31st December 1875 amounted to 7,955,295 ounces, the total value to 30,984,786*l.*

Wool exported.—The total quantity of wool exported in 1875 was 54,401,540 lbs., against 46,848,735 lbs. in 1874, an increase of 7,552,805 lbs. The real increase or decrease in the wool production is better estimated by taking the season's clip as represented by the exports for the 12 months terminating on the 30th September. These exports for the last 5 years were as follows:—

Year ending 30th September.	Wool exported. lbs.
1871 - - - - -	- 35,936,651
1872 - - - - -	- 40,376,539
1873 - - - - -	- 43,233,470
1874 - - - - -	- 47,424,882
1875 - - - - -	- 49,942,148

NEW ZEALAND. So that the actual production of wool for 1874-5 was 2,517,266 lbs. more than in the former year; the production having in four years increased by 14,005,497 lbs., or nearly 39 per cent.

Value of Exports to different Countries.—Of the exports, the produce of the Colony, to different countries, those from Dunedin were greatest in value, amounting to 1,706,244*l.*; Lyttelton ranked next in the value of its exports, which amounted to 1,209,617*l.*; those from Auckland amounted to 595,223*l.*, and from Wellington to 497,898*l.* Of the total exports the largest were to the United Kingdom, amounting to 4,227,760*l.*; the exports to Victoria amounted to 1,124,657*l.*, including gold to the value of 802,617*l.*; the exports to New South Wales amounted to 225,105*l.*, of which the gold amounted to 36,529*l.* The exports to the United States amounted to 93,236*l.*, and the exports to the Pacific Islands reached the sum of 107,284*l.** an increase on the export trade to those islands in 1874 of 52,834*l.*, or 97 per cent. The exports to Fijis increased from 5,737*l.* in 1874 to 32,169*l.* in 1875.

Principal Articles exported.—The tables showing the quantities and values of the principal articles, the produce of the Colony, exported, enable the annual exports of each of the articles therein named to be compared for a period of 10 years. The articles are not arranged alphabetically, but are grouped into natural classes.

It would thus appear that, of the articles referred to, the pastoral interests yielded exports to the value of 3,537,338*l.*, against 2,981,320*l.* in 1874; that mining interests yielded exports to the value of 1,418,459*l.*, against 1,517,074*l.* in 1874; that the agriculturists supplied exports to the value of 248,729*l.*, against 323,760*l.* in 1874; the dairy and preserved meat exports amounted to only 14,211*l.*, against 109,256*l.* in 1874, preserved meats having fallen from an export of 100,245*l.* to 7,180*l.*; the natural products of the soil, with or without labour expended on them, yielded exports to the value of 191,572*l.*, against 163,685*l.* in 1874, an increase attributable to the largely increased value of kauri gum (the export of this gum having decreased in quantity in 1875 by 338 tons, but apparently having had a largely enhanced value); the export of phormium fell to 11,742*l.* in 1875; and the exports yielded by the Southern Whale and Seal Fishery amounted to 11,047*l.*, against 5,686*l.* in 1874.

Export of Flour and Grain.—The export of these articles was much smaller in 1875 than in the previous year, the values having only amounted to 239,796*l.*, against 319,018*l.* in 1874, a decrease of 79,222*l.* While the export of wheat and wheat-flour has decreased so much as to considerably lessen the total amount of exports, the value of the export of oats increased from 30,783*l.* in 1874 to 93,268*l.* in 1875.

* This amount includes 16,030*l.* for exports to the Ladrone Islands, enumerated among the islands in the Pacific.

Timber Exported. — The value of timber exported in 1875 NEW ZEALAND amounted to 40,046*l.*, against 44,450*l.* in 1874. Of this amount, the value of timber exported from Auckland was 39,047*l.*

Imports. — The total value of the imports in 1875 was 8,029,172*l.*, against 8,121,812*l.* in 1874, being a decrease of 92,640*l.*; but as the imports under the three headings of bridge materials, railway plant, and telegraph materials amounted to 796,626*l.* in 1874, against 487,079*l.* in 1875, being a decrease of 309,547*l.* under those heads, there was in 1875 an increase in the value of general imports, exclusive of those above specified, of 216,907*l.*

The following figures show the increase or decrease in the total imports in each of the provinces in 1875 as compared with 1874:—

		£
Auckland	- Increase	5,529 or 35 per cent.
Taranaki	- " 5,871 or 29.86	"
Wellington	- " 128,110 or 11.10	"
Hawke's Bay	- Decrease 39,811 or 18.59	"
Nelson	- " 42,524 or 11.07	"
Marlborough	- Increase 2,657 or 24.76	"
Canterbury	- Decrease 266,386 or 16.98	"
Westland	- " 87,545 or 24.94	"
Otago	- Increase 201,459 or 7.11	"

A comparison of the total value of imports in 1874 and 1875, according to the countries whence they were received, gives the following results:—

	1874.	1875.	
United Kingdom	£ 5,481,036	£ 5,103,610	Decrease 377,426
British Colonies	2,327,597	2,504,325	Increase 176,728
Foreign States	313,179	421,237	" 108,058

Of the above decrease from the United Kingdom, 309,547*l.* is caused by the decreased imports of bridge and telegraph material and railway plant.

The chief increases or decreases in the values of imports from the British Possessions were as follows:—

	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£
New South Wales	112,024	—
Victoria	75,278	—
Queensland (<i>nil</i> in 1874)	10,934	—
South Australia	24,678	—
Western Australia	10,329	—
Tasmania	36,119	—
Mauritius	—	- 97,846
India	—	- 10,265
Fiji	14,592	—

NEW ZEALAND. The chief increases or decreases in the imports from foreign states were—

		Increase. £	Decrease. £
China	-	87,230	—
United States	-	21,953	—
Germany	-	2,698	—
Norway	-	—	5,772
Peru	-	6,000	—
Pacific Islands (not British)	—	—	11,408

and from the Southern Whale Fishery the increase was 7,819*l.*

Value of Total Trade.—The total trade of the Colony, as represented by exports and imports, amounted in 1875 to 13,857,799*l.*, or 38*l.* 12*s.* 3*½d.* per head of the mean population, excluding the aboriginal natives. For 1874 the trade amounted to 41*l.* 14*s.* 0*½d.* per head. These figures do not bear strict comparison with the trade returns of other countries on account of the Maoris, who are to a certain extent consumers and producers, not being included; but in my Report accompanying the statistical volume for 1874, I referred to the difficulty that existed in dealing accurately with the subject, and in measuring with any degree of certainty the allowance that should be made on account of the trade caused by them.

The trade with the United Kingdom reached the amount of 9,331,370*l.*; that with Victoria, 2,702,727*l.*; that with New South Wales, 774,246*l.*; that with the United States, 306,728*l.*; that with China (including Hong Kong), 192,650*l.*; that with Tasmania, 151,626*l.*; that with Mauritius, 108,205*l.*; that with South Australia, 59,087*l.*; and that with the islands in the Pacific, including Fijis and Norfolk Island, 166,014*l.* The balance was distributed between other countries and ports. The following figures show the total exports and imports per head of the population in the year 1875:—

Total Exports.	Total Imports.	Mean Population in 1875, exclusive of Aboriginals.	Exports per head of the Population.	Imports per head.
£	£		£ s. d.	£ s. d.
5,828,627	8,029,172	858,858	16 4 9 <i>½</i>	22 7 5 <i>¾</i>

For 1874 the exports amounted to 16*l.* 7*s.* 6*d.*, and the imports to 25*l.* 6*s.* 6*½d.* per head.

Letters received.—The total numbers of letters received in New Zealand during the year 1875 were—from places without the Colony, 699,963, against 585,530 in 1874; and from places within the Colony, 4,353,440, against 3,753,635 in 1874; making a general total of 5,053,403, against 4,339,165 in 1874, being an increase of 714,238, or 16*·*4 per cent.

Letters despatched.—The total numbers of letters despatched were—to places without the Colony, 642,575, against 589,706 in

1874 ; and to places within the Colony, 4,731,873, against **NEW ZEALAND.** — 4,129,585 in 1874 ; making a general total of 5,374,448, against 4,719,291 in 1874, being an increase of 655,157, or 13·8 per cent.

Newspapers received.—The total numbers of newspapers received were — from places without the Colony, 1,250,788, against 1,144,579 in 1874 ; from places within the Colony, 2,775,669, against 2,728,089 in 1875 ; making a general total of 4,026,457, against 3,872,668 in 1874, an increase of 153,789.

Newspapers despatched.—The total numbers of newspapers despatched were—to places without the Colony, 514,239, against 441,731 in 1874 ; to places within the Colony, 2,270,581, against 1,992,293 in 1874 ; making a general total of 2,784,820, against 2,434,024 in 1874, being an increase of 350,796.

Postal Revenue.—The total amount of postal revenue in 1875 was 122,495*l.* 18*s.* 9*d.*, against 104,361*l.* 2*s.* 11*d.* in 1874. Both these accounts include the sums that would have been chargeable on the franked correspondence if such had been paid for. The actual cash postal revenue for the year was 72,113*l.* 10*s.* 11*d.*, against a similar cash revenue of 65,581*l.* 18*s.* 10*d.* in 1874.

Electric Telegraph.—The telegraph stations in the Colony, on the 31st December 1875, numbered 133, an increase of 22 on the number of stations in 1874. The number of miles of line was 3,156, against 2,632 in 1874 ; the number of miles of wire was 7,065 against 5,284 in 1874. The number of private telegrams was 849,919, against 724,582 in 1874, yielding a revenue of 59,678*l.* 11*s.* The Government telegrams amounted to 143,404. The aggregate number of public and private telegrams amounted to 993,323, against 844,301 in 1874, an increase of 149,022.

PART IV.—FINANCE, ACCUMULATION, AND PRODUCTION.

Revenue.—The customs revenue in 1875 amounted to 1,234,967*l.*, against 1,188,948*l.* in 1874 ; being an increase of 46,019*l.* or 3·87 per cent. The following figures show the comparative amounts realized by this branch of the revenue during the 10 years 1866 to 1875, inclusive :—

	£	£
1866.	844,267	being an increase of 114,259, or 15·65 per cent.
1867.	843,997	being a decrease of 270, or 0·03 „
1868.	788,829	55,168, or 6·53 „
1869.	823,511	being an increase of 34,682, or 4·39 „
1870.	765,930	being a decrease of 57,581, or 6·99 „
1871.	731,883	34,047, or 4·44 „
1872.	813,279	being an increase of 81,396, or 11·12 „
1873.	965,800	152,521, or 18·75 „
1874.	1,188,948	223,148, or 23·10 „
1875.	1,234,967	46,019, or 3·87 „

The total ordinary revenue in 1875 amounted to 2,047,234*l.*, against 1,873,448*l.* in 1874, an increase of 173,786*l.* The ordinary revenue, as above given, includes ordinary provincial revenue. The territorial revenue in 1875 amounted to 688,722*l.*

NEW ZEALAND. The incidental receipts and reimbursements amounted to 77,972*l.*, thus making the general total of the revenue—ordinary, territorial, and incidental—2,813,928*l.*

Expenditure.—The expenditure may be classed as expenditure charged on revenue, expenditure charged on loans, and expenditure of a special character charged on trust funds. It is not necessary here to deal with trust fund expenditure.

The expenditure charged on revenue is partly by the Colonial Government, partly by the Provincial Governments. This class of expenditure, after deducting all transfers, Treasury bills redeemed, and bank overdrafts repaid, amounted in 1875 to the following:—

		£	s.	d.
By the Colonial Government	-	1,712,358	18	1
,, Provincial Governments	-	1,719,613	14	5
		<hr/>		
		3,431,972	12	6

Thus making the total expenditure charged on revenue amount to 3,431,972*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.* This sum does not include the same amounts twice as expenditure, such as payments out of the consolidated revenue to the provinces, and again the application of those sums by the provinces. The actual expenditure in services is only included.

The excess of expenditure over income was covered by balances in hand at the commencement of the year, and a repayment of an advance made from revenue of the previous year of the sum of 150,000*l.* to the public works loan account.

In addition to the above, 45,000*l.* worth of Treasury bills (in excess of renewals), and 15,425*l.* worth of debentures were redeemed, and a provincial bank advance of 5,377*l.* 12*s.* 10*d.* repaid out of revenue.

The actual expenditure charged on loans, after deducting all transfers, from one fund to another by way of accounts, and the redemption of debentures and advances repaid, amounted in 1875 to 3,107,867*l.* 11*s.* 11*d.*, including the amount of 95,614*l.* 3*s.* 1*d.* authorised to be expended from loans for provincial purposes.

There is not any table showing these results; they have been arrived at by a critical analysis of the tables of income and expenditure, in pages 186 to 190, and of the provincial revenue and expenditure, pages 191 and 192.

Debt of General and Provincial Governments.—The total debts of the General and Provincial Governments, consisting of debentures and Treasury bills in circulation on the 31st December 1875, amounted to 17,400,031*l.*, the total annual charge on which was 946,974*l.* 5*s.*, of which the sum of 832,556*l.* 5*s.* was for payment of interest, and the sum of 114,418*l.* was for payment to the sinking fund. The total accrued sinking fund on the 31st December was 1,100,119*l.* 10*s.* 6*d.*

Of the above totals, the indebtedness of the General Government amounted to 13,897,185*l.*, with a total annual charge, for interest

and sinking fund, of 732,045*l.* 3*s.* 10*d.*; and the indebtedness of ^{NEW ZEALAND.} the various Provincial Governments amounted to the sum of 3,502,846*l.* with a total annual charge for interest and sinking fund of 214,929*l.* 1*s.* 2*d.* The total debt per head of the population on the 31st December 1875, was 46*l.* 5*s.* 10*d.*, apportioned thus: colonial debt per head, 36*l.* 19*s.* 5*½d.*; provincial debt per head, 9*l.* 6*s.* 4*½d.* The total annual charge per head for interest and sinking fund amounted to 2*l.* 10*s.* 4*½d.*, against a total annual charge of 2*l.* 4*s.* 7*¾d.* per head on the 31st December 1874. As the sinking fund amounted to 2*l.* 18*s.* 6*¼d.* per head, the debt per head may be estimated at so much less.

Accumulation.

Banks.—The total average liabilities of the banks within the Colony during 1875 amounted to 6,987,318*l.* 3*s.* 2*d.*; the total average assets to 10,987,178*l.* 14*s.*; the total capital paid up on the 31st December 1875 to 4,681,776*l.* 9*s.* 8*d.*; the total amount of last dividends, 317,404*l.* 13*s.* 3*d.*; and total amount of reserved profits at the time of declaring such dividends 1,549,498*l.* 9*s.* 5*d.*

Post Office Savings Banks.—At the close of the year 1875 the number of Post Office Savings Banks in the Colony was 119, being an increase of 16 as compared with 1874. Within the year 11,273 new accounts were opened, and the total deposits (including additions to open accounts) amounted to 657,653*l.* 4*s.* The total withdrawals during the year amounted to 729,759*l.* 17*s.* 9*d.*, thus exhibiting for the first time an excess of withdrawals over deposits, such excess having amounted to 72,106*l.* 13*s.* 9*d.* The increased value of money, and the opportunities afforded for favourable investment by the increasing price of land, have no doubt been largely conducive to this result. The average amount of deposits to the credit of each account was, in 1875, 29*l.* 17*s.* 9*d.*, against 35*l.* 9*s.* in 1874. Taking into account the whole period from the commencement of the system in 1867 to the 31st December 1875, there remained on the latter date, including principal and interest, a total balance to the credit of depositors amounting to 727,295*l.* 7*s.* 8*d.*

Other Savings Banks.—In savings banks other than the Post Office Savings Banks the deposits in 1875 by Europeans amounted to 99,916*l.* 17*s.* 2*d.*; by Maoris to 117*l.*; or a total deposit in these banks of 100,033*l.* 17*s.* 2*d.* The total amount to credit of depositors in these banks in 1875 was—Europeans, 169,789*l.* 10*s.* 8*d.*; Maoris, 241*l.* 3*s.* 8*d.*; or a total of 170,030*l.* 14*s.* 4*d.* The total accumulated deposits in both classes of savings banks thus reached the amount of 897,326*l.* 2*s.*, a decrease on the accumulated deposits in 1874 of 46,427*l.* 4*s.* 4*d.*

Money Orders.—The total number of money orders issued in New Zealand in 1875 was 73,027, against 62,712 in 1874, being an increase of 10,315. The total amount of these orders was in 1875, 293,481*l.* 10*s.* 9*d.*, against 263,164*l.* 7*s.* 9*d.* in 1874, being an increase of 30,317*l.* 3*s.* The number of money orders drawn on the Colony in 1875 was 52,575, representing an

NEW ZEALAND. aggregate amount of 212,155*l.* 3*s.* 3*d.*; against 44,371, representing an aggregate amount of 187,284*l.* 14*s.* 1*d.* in 1874.

Mortgages and Releases.—The total number of mortgages on land effected in 1875 was 5,651, representing the amount of 3,666,695*l.* 15*s.* 3*d.*; the releases were 2,298, representing the amount of 1,230,131*l.* 13*s.* 8*d.*; the excess of mortgages over releases amounting to 2,436,564*l.* 1*s.* 7*d.* Of the mortgages, 2,308, representing the amount of 1,637,308*l.* 14*s.* 11*d.*, were effected under the Land Transfer Act, and 3,343, representing the amount of 2,029,387*l.* 0*s.* 4*d.*, under the previous deeds registration system.

Production.

Crown Lands Alienated.—The total amount of Crown lands sold during the year amounted to 318,682 acres. The cash received amounted to 448,697*l.* 4*s.* 6*d.* Scrip to the amount of 670*l.* was also received in payment.

The total number of acres disposed of without sale amounted to 486,335, including 237,363 acres as reserves for public purposes, and 246,884 acres granted to natives under the Native Lands Acts.

The total area of land alienated since the foundation of the Colony amounts to 11,398,745 acres, exclusive of confiscated lands amounting to 1,584,648 acres, together amounting to 12,983,393 acres. The amount in the hands of Government remaining for disposal (including confiscated lands 1,491,983) amounts to 34,438,502 acres.

The total number of acres of Crown lands held for depasturing purposes amounted in 1875 to 14,376,068, the rents and assessments of which amounted to 122,461*l.* 8*s.* 4*d.* The number of acres leased for mineral and other purposes amounted to 8,996, yielding a rental of 1,819*l.* 5*s.*

Agricultural Statistics.—The annual information relating to agricultural statistics is only obtained in respect of holdings of cultivated land of one acre in extent or upwards, with the exception of holdings of aboriginal natives, and of gardens attached to residences. The total number of holdings thus enumerated was 17,250 in February 1876, against 16,092 in February 1875, an increase of 1,158.

The extent of land under grain crop amounted in February 1876 to 286,712 acres, an increase on the previous year of 7,261 acres. Of the above acres under grain crops, 146,842 were in the province of Canterbury, and 112,184 in the province of Otago, leaving only 27,686 acres under grain crop in the rest of the Colony.

The proportion of permanent artificial pasture or sown grasses to the total acreage in cultivation was in February 1876, 91.81 to every 100 acres in Auckland, 93.36 in Taranaki, 96.31 in Wellington, 96.71 in Hawke's Bay, 74.28 in Marlborough, 79.81 in Nelson, 79.27 in Westland, 57.41 in Canterbury, and 58.0 in Otago.

The total extent of land under all kinds of crops, including sown grasses, and of land broken up but not under crop in

February 1876, amounted to 2,377,402 acres, being an increase on NEW ZEALAND. 1875 of 433,749 acres. The bulk of this increase consisted of the increase in the quantity of land sown with artificial grasses, amounting to 384,819 acres. The extent of land under wheat in February 1876 was 90,804 acres, being less than the extent under wheat in February 1875 by 14,870 acres. The estimated aggregate produce of the wheat was 2,863,619 bushels, or a decrease on the estimated produce of the previous year of 110,721 bushels. This produce, if realised when the crop was threshed, would yield an average of $31\frac{1}{2}$ bushels to the acre, or 7.6 bushels per head of the population as estimated on the 1st January 1876.

The average yield of wheat per acre in the different provinces has been returned as follows:—In the Middle Island; Otago $36\frac{1}{2}$ bushels, Canterbury $30\frac{3}{4}$, Marlborough $23\frac{3}{4}$, and Nelson 19. In the North Island; Wellington $19\frac{1}{4}$, Taranaki $16\frac{1}{2}$, Hawke's Bay $12\frac{3}{4}$, and Auckland $19\frac{1}{2}$. In the North Island these averages are all lower than they were in 1875, but in Canterbury and Otago they are much higher. The extent of land in oats increased from 157,545 acres in 1875 to 168,252 acres in 1876, and the estimated yield increased from 5,548,729 bushels in 1875, to 6,357,431 bushels in 1876, an increase of 808,702 bushels. The average produce per acre was estimated at $37\frac{3}{4}$ bushels in 1876, against 35 bushels in 1875. The extent of land in barley increased from 16,236 in 1875, to 27,656 in 1876, and the estimated production from 477,163 bushels to 993,219 bushels, the yield having been estimated at $35\frac{3}{4}$ bushels per acre in 1876, against $29\frac{1}{4}$ in 1875. The increase in the amount of land in potatoes amounted to 2,501 acres, the area having been 12,154 acres in 1875, and 14,655 acres in 1876. The average produce was estimated at $4\frac{3}{4}$ tons per acre, a decrease on the estimate in 1875 of a quarter of a ton.

PART V.—LAW, CRIME, AND EDUCATION.

Civil Cases.—There were 1,174 civil cases commenced in the Supreme Court during the year 1875; of these, 58 were tried before juries. 443 civil cases were commenced in the various district courts during the same period, representing claims amounting to 31,810*l. 5s. 6d.*; of these, 259 came to trial. The aggregate amounts for which judgment was recorded were 10,691*l. 10s. 10d.* There were 22,077 civil cases heard in the resident magistrates' courts. The amounts sued for in the resident magistrates' courts were in the aggregate 240,915*l. 8s. 9d.*, and the amounts for which judgments were given were in the aggregate 117,994*l. 1s. 9d.*

Bankruptcy.—There were 545 petitions in bankruptcy during the year; 360 in the supreme courts, and 185 in the district courts. The aggregate amount of assets, as shown by the insolvents' schedules, amounted to 297,115*l. 2s. 2\frac{1}{2}d.*, and the liabilities to 422,770*l. 11s. 6\frac{1}{2}d.*, showing an excess of liabilities over assets amounting to 125,655*l. 9s. 4d.*

NEW ZEALAND. *Criminal Cases.*—The first three tables in this part are new. They present, in a concise form, a summary of the number of charges made for criminal offences, and the number of convictions ensuing; also the numbers and proportions to the population of charges and convictions for a period of four years.

The total number of persons charged with offences before the resident magistrates' courts in 1875 amounted to 23,324. Of these, 17,353 were summarily convicted, and 409 committed for trial. Out of 302 persons tried in the superior courts, 257 were convicted of various offences. While there is during the last four years very little difference in the proportions to the population of persons charged with and convicted of offences against the person and property, there is a decided and progressive increase in the proportions of persons charged with and convicted of miscellaneous offences, viz., not against person or property, the proportion of convictions having increased from 35·35 per 1,000 of the population in 1872 to 43·32 per 1,000 in 1875. Of the 72 criminal cases against the person (62 males and 10 females) tried in the supreme court, 43 males and 4 females were convicted; and of the 253 criminal offences against property (227 males and 26 females), 147 males and 10 females were convicted. Out of a total of 340 trials before the supreme court for all classes of criminal offences, there were 212 convictions.

In the various district courts there were 62 cases tried. Of these, 23 were for offences against the person, and of these, 13 females and 2 males were convicted; 27 males and 1 female were convicted of offences against property, and 2 males convicted of miscellaneous offences. The convictions before the resident magistrates' courts numbered 17,353, viz., 15,834 males and 1,519 females; 933 males and 62 females were convicted of offences against the person; 725 males and 88 females were convicted of offences against property; 12,415 males and 1,223 females were convicted of offences against good order, of whom 6,102 males and 719 females were convicted of drunkenness, and 1,063 males and 281 females of vagrancy; and 1,761 males and 146 females were convicted of offences against carrying out the laws relating to revenue or of offences against public welfare.

The total convictions in all the courts for offences against the person amounted to 1,057, viz., 989 males and 68 females. These cases include 8 persons convicted of assault with intent to commit robbery, and in the tables in page 219 these have been included in the offences against property. 243 Maoris were summarily convicted of various offences during the year, and 10 were committed for trial before higher courts. The offences causing the principal number of convictions were—drunkenness, 110 convictions; assault, 27 convictions; and larceny, 16 convictions.

Sentences of Criminals.—92 persons were sentenced in the superior courts to terms of imprisonment under 1 year, 67 for terms of one year and not exceeding 2 years, 71 for periods of 2 to 5 years, 15 for periods of 5 to 10 years, and 6 for periods exceeding 10 years.

Gaols.—The number of prisoners confined in the various gaols NEW ZEALAND of the Colony during the year 1875 (not including those incarcerated for debt or lunacy) amounted to 4,722, excluding the Maori prisoners, 88, the number was 4,634, or 1·29 per cent. of the mean population, the rate having been 1·18 in 1874, and 1·21 in 1873.

The number of prisoners, not including Maoris, confined on charges of felony, amounted to 692 or 1·19 per cent. of the population, against 1·17 in 1874, and the number, exclusive of Maoris, on charges of misdemeanor, to 576, or 1·16 per cent. of the mean population, against 1·14 in 1873.

Thirty-three children under 10 years of age were confined in gaol, 2 being charged with felony, 6 with misdemeanor, and 25 with minor offences; 48 prisoners were between 10 and 15 years of age, of whom 5 were committed for felony, 217 were from 15 to 20 years of age, 49 having been committed for felony.

Of the total prisoners in confinement in the various gaols, 1,721 (viz., 1,201 males and 520 females) had been previously committed. Of these, 451 males and 79 females had been committed once previously, 220 males and 57 females twice previously, and 530 males and 382 females three or more times.

Education of Prisoners.—Of the total number of prisoners, 575 males and 226 females were unable to read, 213 males and 153 females were able to read only, 3,191 males and 520 females were able to read and write, and 85 males and 1 female had received a superior education.

Fire Inquests.—Subjoined is a table showing the number of fire inquests held in the Colony during 1875. The total number is 61 against a total of 83 in 1874. In 16 cases a verdict of "accidental or unspecified" was returned, against 6 cases in 1874. In 7 cases it was ascertained that the buildings had been purposely set on fire, against 22 cases in 1874. Incendiarism was therefore apparently not so rife as in the previous year. In 38 cases the verdict was "Not sufficient evidence."

RETURN of FIRE INQUESTS during the Year 1875.

Provinces.	Total Number held.	Verdicts returned.		
		Accidental or Unspecified.	Set on Fire purposely.	Not sufficient Evidence.
Auckland	-	8	2	—
Taranaki	-	3	2	1
Wellington	-	5	—	—
Hawke's Bay	-	4	1	—
Nelson	-	11	2	—
Marlborough	-	1	—	—
Canterbury	-	5	2	1
Westland	-	2	1	—
Otago	-	22	6	5
Totals	-	61	16	38

NEW ZEALAND. *Common Schools.*—The number of common schools either receiving Government aid or under the control of school boards was, in December 1875, 599, having a total of 1,123 teachers, and with the names of 45,562 pupils on their books. The daily average attendance in 1875 amounted to 31,827. Of the pupils, 779 were under 5 years of age; 26,144 were from 5 to 10; 15,560 were from 10 to 15, and 654 were 15 years of age and upwards.

Superior Schools.—There were four superior schools receiving Government aid or under school boards in December 1875. There were 30 teachers engaged in them; the names of 598 pupils were on the books, and the average daily attendance was 566.

Private Schools.—The number of private schools in the Colony in December 1875, from which returns have been received, amounted to 182, or 6 less than in 1874. Returns show that in some instances private schools have been closed on account of the competition caused by the schools receiving aid from Government or rates. Of the 182 schools, 24 were for boys only, 37 for girls only, and 121 mixed. The number of teachers at these schools was 452, viz., 135 males and 317 females, and the number of scholars 7,316, viz., 3,206 males and 4,110 females.

The total number of schools for the European portion of the population amounted in December 1875 to 785, employing 1,605 teachers, and attended by 53,476 pupils, viz., 28,604 males and 24,872 females.

Ages and Attendance of Pupils.—Of the pupils, 779 were under 5 years of age, and 795 were 15 years and upwards, the number from 5 to 15 years being 51,902. When the census of 1874 was taken, the proportion of children from 5 to 15 years amounted to 24.14 per cent. of the whole population. If the same proportion obtains at the present time, the number of children at from 5 to 15 years in December 1875 should have been 90,731. It thus appears that rather more than half (57 per cent.) of the children at from 5 to 15 are attending school. Of the 38,829 not attending school, about 8,500 (judging by the results of the census of 1874) may be considered to be receiving an education more or less perfect or imperfect at home; there would thus remain about 30,329 children at from 5 to 15 years of age who are not receiving any education whatever.

The census returns show a higher rate of per-cent-age of attendance at school; but these returns include children at ages under 5 and over 15, while the above remarks are, so far as the ages are ascertainable, limited to children at from 5 to 15; the children attending common schools in the provinces of Taranaki and Westland, for whom no information as to ages has been supplied, and the whole of the children in attendance at private schools, have been dealt with on the assumption that they were above 5 years of age and under 15.

Education Rates.—The education rates collected in the different provinces amounted to the sum of 36,003*l.* 15*s.* 2*d.* against

19,114*l.* 18*s.* 0*½d.* in 1874. The fees collected amounted to NEW ZEALAND. 25,597*l.* 12*s.* 9*d.* against 17,722*l.* 14*s.* 1*d.* in 1874. The Government grants in aid amounted to 111,420*l.* 14*s.* 5*d.*, and the receipts from other sources, as rents and local contributions, to 4,910*l.* 0*s.* 10*d.* The total income for public school purposes reached the amount of 177,932*l.* 3*s.* 2*d.* These sums do not include the payments made on account of the children attending private schools, nor the Auckland Grammar School, which is partly supported by endowments of land made by the Government.

Native Schools.—The number of schools established for the education of Maori children amounted in 1875 to 49. Of these, two were closed during the year, and one was not opened for pupils until the 1st January 1876. There were 46 during the year attended by pupils. The numbers of pupils amounted to—males, 870; females, 531; or a total of 1,401; an increase on the number of such pupils in 1874 of 130. The number of instructors was 87, viz., 52 males and 35 females. Of these, 6 males and 3 females were of the native race. The grants by the Government on account of these schools amounted during 1875 to 6,934*l.* 2*s.* 4*d.* Of this amount, the sum of 4,700*l.* 19*s.* 7*d.* was for payment of salaries, and the sum of 2,233*l.* 2*s.* 9*d.* for buildings and other expenses.

Fifteen European schools received subsidies from the Government for the support of Maori pupils. 140 Maoris, viz., 91 males and 49 females, attended these schools. There was thus a total number of 1,541 Maori children receiving education in 1875.

PART VI.—MISCELLANEOUS.

Municipal Boroughs.

Number and Population.—The number of municipal boroughs in December 1875 was 34. Towns administered under a system of boards of works or town boards are included among the road districts. The population of the municipalities is estimated at 111,919 persons. As it is impossible to ascertain the changes in the local distribution of the population between the census periods, the above estimate cannot be considered as more than approximate.

Area.—The area of 32 municipalities is estimated at 29,421 acres.

Value of Rateable Property.—The estimated annual value of rateable property in all the boroughs was 1,067,739*l.*

Revenue.—The aggregate revenue of 31 municipalities (three having only been constituted towards the end of the year) amounted in 1875 to 141,185*l.*, exclusive of all receipts from loans, bank overdrafts, deposits on contracts, and balances in hand at commencement of year, which are included in the total income of 214,020*l.* given in the tables. The rates received amounted to 66,547*l.*, and the receipts in aid from either the general or

NEW ZEALAND. provincial Governments amounted to 14,534*l.* Only 12 of the boroughs received any Government aid.

Expenditure.—The total expenditure of these 31 boroughs amounted to 191,527*l.*, including repayment of loans and bank overdrafts. The expenditure on account of public works amounted to 111,629*l.*, and on account of salaries to 16,477*l.*

Road Districts.

Number.—There were 310 road districts and local boards, and four towns under town boards or boards of works, classified in tables among the road districts; the total thus being 314. Of these, 130 were in the province of Auckland alone. The next largest number was 46 in Otago.

Area.—The area of 265 of the above 314 districts was estimated at 22,829,888 acres.

Estimated Value of Rateable Property.—Many of the boards rate on the total value, many on the annual value, and some rate at 'per acre; the returns are thus dissimilar in character. 22 boards have made imperfect or not any returns. In some instances the returns show for the same district both an annual and total value. An examination shows that the average percentage of the annual to the total value varies in the different provinces. If the annual value be estimated at 7 per cent. of the total value in Auckland and Taranaki, and 10 per cent. in Hawke's Bay and Wellington—the land at Taranaki being estimated for the purpose at 3*l.* per acre—a total estimated annual value, for 292 out of 314 districts, of 1,869,636*l.* would be arrived at, but no complete and accurate totals can be given.

Income.—The total income of 290 boards for 1875, including bank balances at commencement of the year, amounted to 403,459*l.* The total revenue from rates amounted to 61,426*l.*, and the receipts from the general or provincial Governments to 168,552*l.* The revenue from other sources was 36,765*l.*

Expenditure.—Of the total expenditure (by 290 boards) of 318,620*l.*, sums amounting to 284,698*l.* were expended on public works, and 16,000*l.* on salaries.

Constabulary, Volunteers, Fire Brigades.

Armed Constabulary.—The total strength of the armed constabulary on the 31st December 1875 was 728, distributed over 65 posts in the North Island. There were 43 commissioned officers, 90 non-commissioned officers, and 595 rank and file.

Volunteers.—The various branches of the volunteer force gave a total strength of 6,080 officers and men, belonging to 127 corps. These numbers show an increase in the strength of the volunteer corps of 616 on the numbers on the 31st December 1874, but a decrease of 7 in the then number of corps.

Fire Brigades.—The returns show that there were in the Colony in 1875, 23 fire brigades, having a total strength of 74 officers and 569 men.

Representation.

NEW ZEALAND.

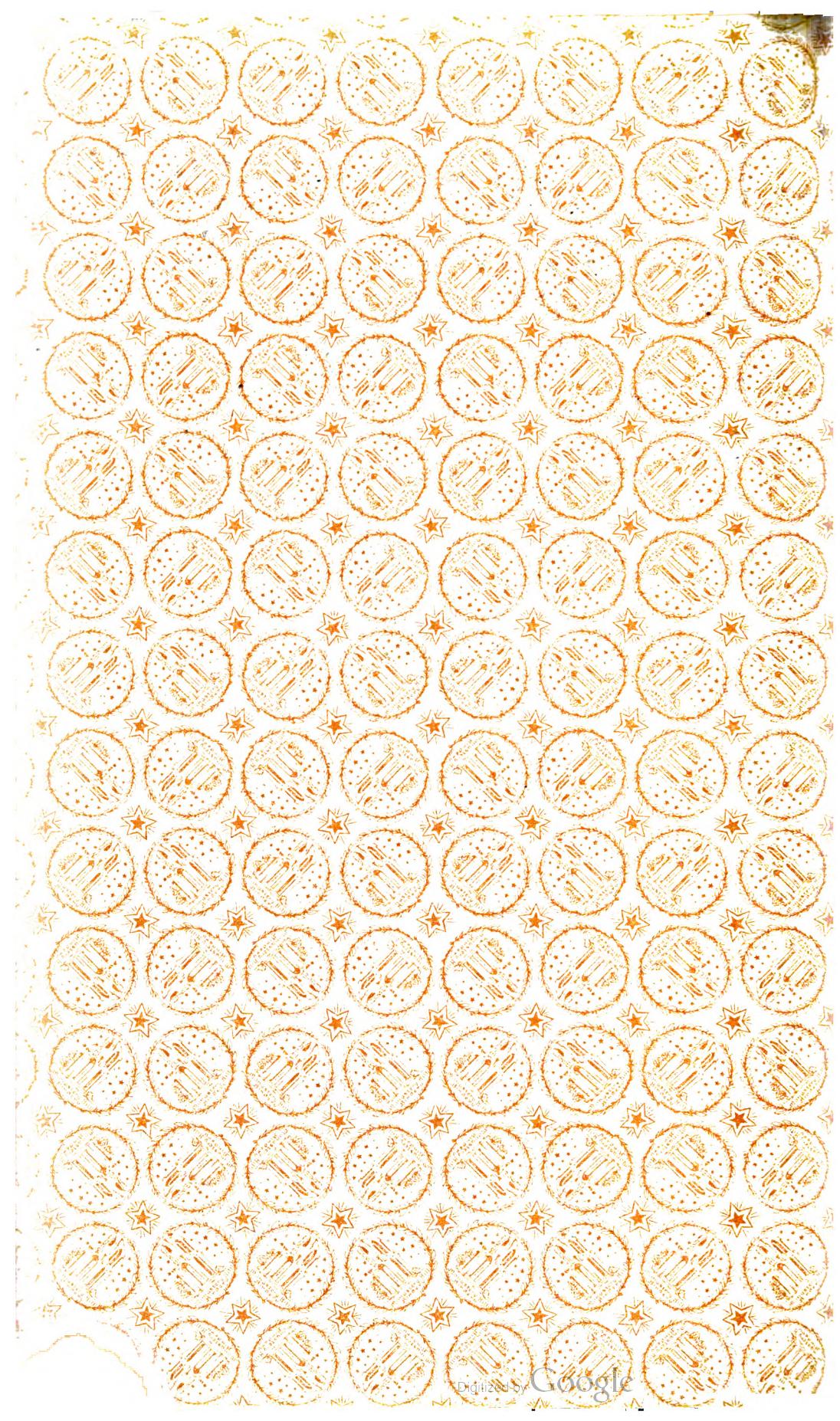
Electors.—The number of persons registered as electors amounted to 58,744, equal to 28 per cent. of the mean male population for the year 1875.

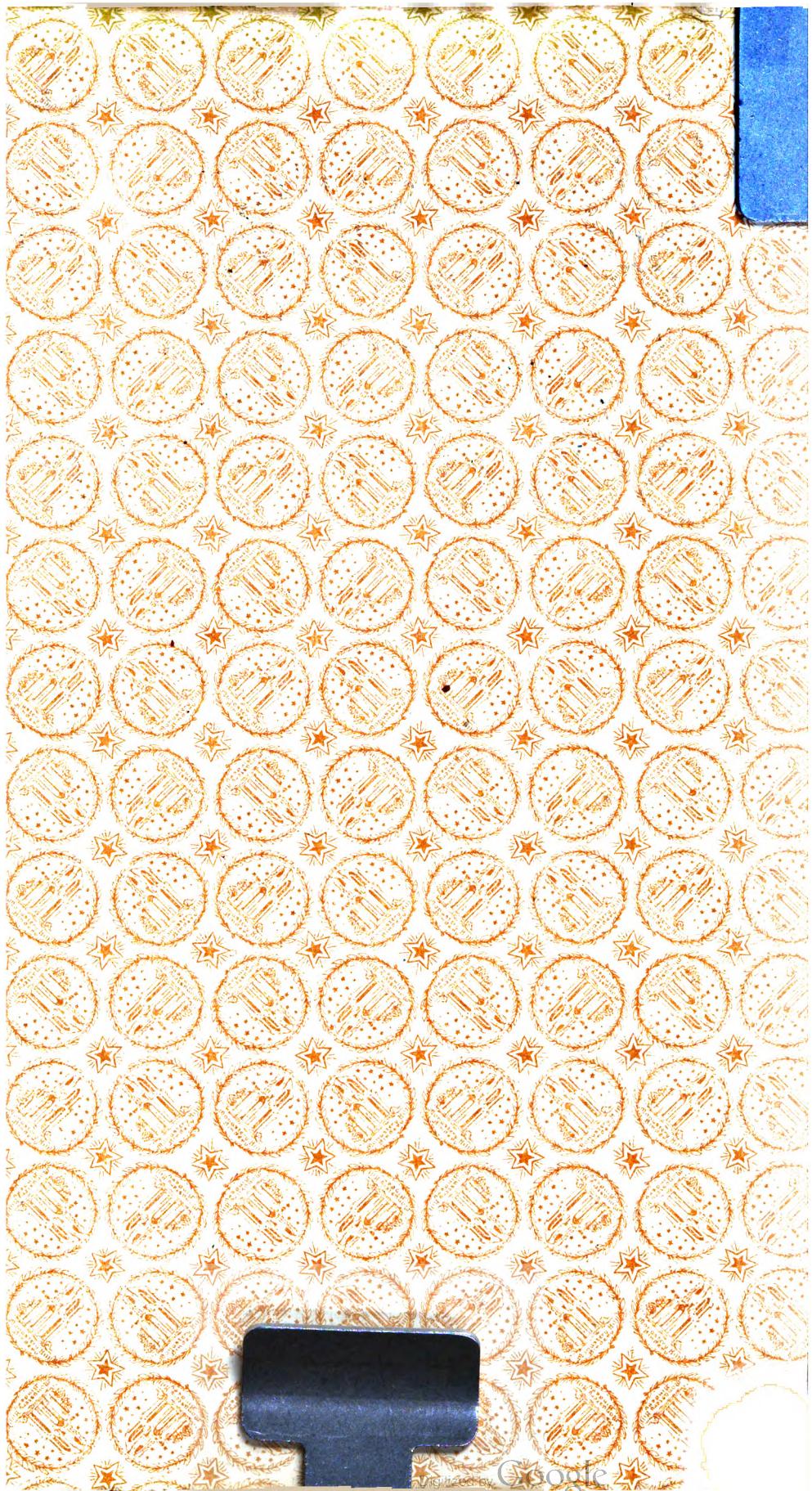
I have, &c.

(Signed) Wm. R. E. BROWN,

The Hon. Daniel Pollen, Registrar-General.
Colonial Secretary.

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